# Essential Idioms in English

**REVISED EDITION**

*With Exercises for Practice and Tests by*

Robert J. Dixson

*REGENTS PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.*

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Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 53-9148

Printed in the United States of America

# Preface

Although lists of English idioms have been compiled in the past, this is apparently the first attempt that has been made to teach idioms by means of extensive practice exercises.

Idiomatic expressions are accepted as part of simple, everyday speech. Experienced teachers of English have long recognized their importance as a means of adding grace and exactness to speech and writing.

But the foreign student by no means finds it easy to use idiomatic expressions fluently. When he attempts to translate such expressions directly from his native tongue, the meaning somehow eludes him, and he finds himself resorting to involved circumlocutions.

The student may learn grammar and, with time, acquire an adequate vocabulary, but without a working knowledge of such idioms as *to put out, to get along, to call for, to look up, to look over*, etc., his speech will remain awkward and stilted.

To be sure, complete control of the idiom of any language requires years of study and practice. Yet this is no reason why the study of idioms should be neglected. Such a study should be made part of, and integrated with, the regular teaching of grammar and vocabulary. Of course, the idioms chosen for study should be well within the student's grasp and of practical value. Such expressions as *to carry coals to Newcastle* or *to wash one's dirty linen in public*, while very colorful, do not help the student achieve his goal of gaining facility in his everyday use of the language.

For this reason, only those idioms have been included in this book that are more or less basic. In addition, I have avoided theorizing in the text about the nature of idioms; in fact, I have not even gone too deeply into defining what an idiom actually is. For the purpose of this book I have simply assumed that an idiom is an expression which has a meaning different from that of the individual meaning of each of its component parts. This explains why the idiom cannot be trans-

lated literally from one language into another without some change in its meaning or connotation.

Most important of all, in choosing the idioms for this book I have been guided by my many years of teaching in this field. I believe that the judgment of other experienced teachers will endorse the selection I have made, especially of the idioms included in the first (elementary) section and in the second (intermediate) section.

In the third or advanced section, though I may have included some idioms that another teacher would have omitted, or omitted a few that another teacher might have included, it will be appreciated that any selection on the advanced level must be arbitrary because the range is so great.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that this is a drill book designed to teach students how to use idioms. It is not a book of reference.

Mention should be made of a unique feature that adds to the usefulness of this book: Appendix II is a listing of all the idioms in the book with their equivalents in Spanish, French, and German. Having these equivalents available should give the student a surer grasp of the meaning of the English idioms and greater confidence in using them.

R.J.D.

## REVISED EDITION

In its revised and enlarged form, *Essential Idioms* adds eight new lessons that feature current and up-to-date idioms. In addition, each idiomatic expression that is *separable* is marked with the symbol (S) throughout the book and sentences illustrating both separated and non-separated examples of the idiom are usually given. Other minor modifications which have been made include the occasional sharpening of a definition or an exercise, and the elimination of out-of-date terms or anachronistic references. For further information on idioms, the reader is referred to Whitford and Dixson: *Handbook of American Idioms*, Revised Edition, 1971, published by Simon & Schuster, Inc., Educational Division.

H.C.W.

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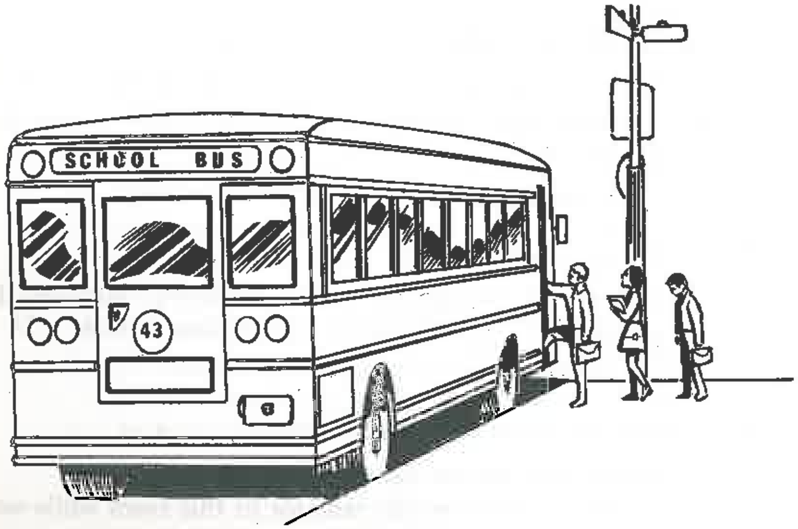
# Lesson 1




1. to get on: (to enter, board) Compare: to get or catch a bus.
   1. I always *get on* the bus at 34th Street.
   2. William *gets on* the subway at the same station every morning.
2. to get off: (to leave, descend from)
   1. Helen *got off* the bus at 42nd Street.
   2. At what station do you usually *get off* the subway?
3. to put on: (to place on oneself – said particularly of clothes) (S)*
   1. Mary *put on* her scarf and left the room.

* The symbol (S) indicates that an idiom is *separable*—that a direct object may be placed between the verb and the prepositional particle. In these cases examples are given of the idiom both separated and also unseparated. See Appendix I, Page 192, for further details.

2. Why is John *putting on* his hat and coat?
3. *Put* your hat *on* before you leave the house.

4. to take off: (to remove—said also of clothes) (S)
   1. John *took off* his hat as he entered the room.
   2. Is Helen *taking off* her coat because it is too warm in the room?
   3. *Take* your sweater *off* in this warm room.

5. to call up: (to telephone) (S)
   1. I forgot *to call up* Mr. Jones yesterday, although I promised *to call* him *up* exactly at three o'clock.
   2. Did anyone *call* me *up* while I was out?

6. to turn on: (to start, begin) (S)
   1. Please *turn on* the light. This room is dark.
   2. Someone *turned on* the radiator in this room while we were out.
   3. Do you know who *turned* it *on*?

7. to turn off: (to stop, terminate, extinguish) (S)
   1. Shall I *turn off* the radio or are you still listening to it?
   2. Please *turn off* the light. We do not need it now.
   3. Shall I *turn* the oven *off*?

8. right away: (immediately, at once, very soon)
   1. She says that dinner will be ready *right away*.
   2. Can William come to my office *right away*?

9. to pick up: (to take – especially with the fingers) (S)
   1. John *picked up* the newspaper which was on his desk.
   2. Why didn't you *pick up* that pencil which lay on the floor?
   3. I would have *picked* it *up* if I had noticed it.



10. at once: (immediately, very soon, right away)
    1. He asked me to come to his office *at once*.
    2. I want you to send this telegram *at once*.

11. to get up: (to arise, to move from a lying, to a standing position) (S)
    1. I *get up* at seven o'clock every morning.
    2. What time does your brother usually *get up*?
    3. The man was so weak that the nurse was unable *to get* him *up*.

12. at first: (originally, in the first instance)
    1. *At first* he seemed to find English very difficult, but later he made very good progress.
    2. *At first* I thought it was John who was telephoning to me.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words*, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.**

   1. He *arises* at the same time every morning. (get____________)
      Example: He *gets up* at the same time every morning.
   2. She *telephoned* me very late last night. (call____________)
   3. Helen said that she was going to mail the letter *immediately*. (right____________)
   4. Be sure to *extinguish* the light before you leave the room. (turn____________)
   5. Helen *placed on herself* her new hat and stood admiring herself in the mirror. (put____________)

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* Anything that is italicized is in italic type. In No. 1 above, the pronoun **He** is in roman type and the verb *arises* in italic type.

** Note: Make whatever grammatical changes are necessary.

6. *Remove* your overcoat and sit down a few minutes. (take____________)
7. *Originally* I thought it was John who was calling me. (at____________)
8. We *boarded* the bus at Broadway and 79th Street. (get ____________)
9. The bus was so crowded that we had difficulty in *leaving*. (get____________)
10. John *took with his fingers* the pencil which was lying on the floor. (pick____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. At what street do you *get on* the bus or subway every morning?
2. At what street do you usually *get off*?
3. Is it easy or difficult to *get on* a bus which is crowded?
4. Is it easy or difficult to *get off* a bus which is uncrowded?
5. Which of your friends *called you up* last night?
6. Whom did you *call up* last night?
7. Did Henry say that he would return *right away* or much later this evening?
8. Do you generally *put on* your hat and coat when you leave or when you enter your home?
9. When do you generally *take off* your hat and coat?
10. When you arrive at school each day, do you immediately *put on* your hat and coat or *take off* your hat and coat?
11. What do you do when you leave school each day?
12. If you wish to hear some music, do you *turn on* or *turn off* the radio?
13. What do you do when you finish using the radio or television: *turn* it *on* or *turn* it *off*?
14. At what time do you usually *get up* every morning?
15. At what time do your brothers and sisters *get up*?



# Lesson 2

1. to wait for: (to expect, await)
   1. We will *wait for* you on the corner of Broadway and 86th Street.
   2. We *waited for* him more than an hour and finally left.
2. at last: (finally)
   1. We waited and waited and *at last* John arrived.
   2. Has he finished that work *at last*?
3. as usual: (as always, customarily)
   1. George is late for class again *as usual.*
   2. *As usual* Dora won first prize in the swimming contest.
4. to find out: (to get information, discover, learn) (S)
   1. I was unable *to find out* the name of the man who called.
   2. Will you please try *to find out* for me what time that train arrives?
   3. I'll try *to find* it *out.*
5. to look at: (to direct the eyes toward, watch)
   1. The teacher told us *to look at* the blackboard and not at our books.
   2. I like to walk along a country road and *look at* the stars at night.
6. to look for: (to search for, seek)
   1. He has spent an hour *looking for* the pen which he lost.
   2. I have lost my gloves. Will you help me *look for* them?
   3. We have *looked* all over *for* you.*

* An example of an idiom separated by an adverb. See Appendix I.

7. all right: (satisfactory, correct)
   1. He said that it would be *all right to* wait in this office for him.
   2. Will it be *all right* with you if I pay back that money tomorrow instead of today?

8. right here, right there, right now, etc.: (exactly here, exactly there, immediately)
   1. He said that he would meet us *right here* on this corner.
   2. *Right then* I saw very clearly that he was not telling the truth.
   3. Let's do it *right now.*

9. little by little: (gradually, by degrees, slowly)
   1. If you study regularly each day, *little by little* your vocabulary of English words will increase.
   2. His health seems to be improving *little by little.*

10. tired out: (extremely tired) (S)
    1. I have worked very hard today and am *tired out.*
    2. He was *tired out* after his long trip to California.
    3. A long walk *tired* her *out.*

11. to call on: (to visit)
    1. Last night several friends *called on* us.
    2. How many salesmen *call on* Mr. Evans every day?

12. never mind: (do not mind, do not bother or pay any attention to it)
    1. "*Never mind!*" she said when I offered to open the window for her.
    2. When William wished to return the money which he owes you, why did you say: "*Never mind!* Wait until next week when you receive your paycheck."?



## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. Mary is *seeking* the pocketbook which she lost yesterday. (look__________)
2. *As always,* John is late again for the lesson. (as__________)
3. Did you *discover* what his name was? (find__________)
4. I am *extremely tired* after all that physical exercise today. (tired__________)
5. He said that he would wait for us *exactly here* on this corner. (__________here)
6. Some old friends of my father's *visited* us last night. (call__________)
7. *Gradually* his English seems to be getting better. (little__________)
8. They are *awaiting* their brother who is arriving tonight on the five o'clock train. (wait__________)
9. We waited and waited and *finally* he arrived. (at__________)
10. He said that it would be *satisfactory* for us to call again later. (all__________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why were you *tired out* after your long walk in the park yesterday?
2. Which friends *called on* you last night?
3. What friends do you yourself expect *to call on* next week?
4. When Helen offered to help you with your homework, why did you say, "*Never mind*"?
5. Is your vocabulary in English increasing rapidly or only *little by little*?
6. What is the teacher *looking for* in her desk?

7. If you lose something, do you *look for* it or *look at* it?
8. What time was it when you last *looked at* your watch?
9. Do you like or dislike to have *to wait for* someone who is late?
10. How long did you have *to wait for* the bus this morning?
11. Why did Mary say that we should *wait for* her *right here* in the lobby?
12. How do you *find out* what movies they are showing tonight in your neighborhood?
13. How do you *find out* at what time the picture begins?
14. Did you prepare your homework last night *as usual*?
15. Did the teacher say that it was *all right* for us to write our exercises in pencil or did she say that we must use ink?
16. What are all those people in the street *looking at* — an accident or a parade?

# Lesson 3

1. to pick out: (to choose, select) (S)
   1. I want *to pick out* some new ties to give brother as a Christmas present.
   2. Which book did you *pick out* to send to Anne?
   3. If you want me to treat you to a dessert, *pick* one *out*.
2. to take one's time: (to work or go leisurely, avoid hurrying)
   1. There is no hurry. You can *take your time* doing those exercises.
   2. William never works rapidly. He always *takes his time* in everything that he does.

3. to talk over: (to discuss, consider) (S)
   1. We *talked over* Carl's plan to put in air conditioning, but could not come to a decision.
   2. With whom did you *talk over* your plan to buy a new car?
   3. Before I accepted the new job offer, I *talked* it *over* with my wife.

4. to lie down: (to recline, take a lying position)
   1. If you are tired, why don't you *lie down* for an hour or so?
   2. The doctor says that Grace must *lie down* and rest an hour every afternoon.

5. to stand up: (to rise, take an upright or standing position after being seated)
   1. When the President entered, everyone in the room *stood up.*
   2. When the "Star-Spangled Banner" is played, everyone must *stand up* and remove his hat.

6. to sit down: (to take a sitting position after standing)
   1. After standing for so long, it was a pleasure *to sit down* and rest.
   2. We *sat down* on the park bench and watched the people as they passed.

7. all day long: (the entire day, continuously through the day)
   1. I have been working on my income-tax form *all day long.*
   2. She shopped *all day long* looking for a new dress.

8. by oneself: (alone)
   1. John translated that French novel *by himself.* No one helped him.
   2. She likes to walk *by herself* through the woods.



9. on purpose: (purposely, intentionally)
   1. It was no accident. She broke the dish *on purpose.*
   2. Do you think he made that mistake *on purpose?*

10. to get along: (to do, succeed, make progress)
    1. John is *getting along* very well in his study of English.
    2. How is Mr. Holmes *getting along* in his new job?

11. to make no difference: (to be of equal importance)
    1. When I asked him whether he wanted to go in the morning or in the afternoon, he said: "It doesn't *make any difference* to me."
    2. Does it *make any difference* to you whether we have our lesson at two o'clock or at three o'clock?

12. to take out: (to remove, extract) (S)
    1. William *took out* his handkerchief and wiped his forehead.
    2. The thief suddenly *took out* a knife and attacked the policeman.
    3. Every night Jim *takes* his dog *out* for a walk.

## Exercises

A. Substitute in place of the italicized word or words the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.
   1. I don't like to go to the movies *alone.* (by__________)
   2. Suddenly the man *removed* a revolver from his pocket and began to shoot. (took__________)
   3. We *discussed* his plan for several hours. (talk__________)
   4. I always like to *recline* for a half-hour or so after lunch. (lie__________)
   5. It is always difficult for me to *select* a good present for my wife. (pick__________)

6. John always *works leisurely* in everything that he does. (take____________)
7. How is Marie *doing* in her new French class? (get____________)
8. It *is of little importance* to him whether he passes his English examination or not. (make____________)
9. I am sure that he didn't leave that cigarette there *intentionally*. (on____________)
10. We spent *the entire day* looking for a new apartment. (all____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How are you *getting along* in your study of English?
2. Which student in your class seems to be *getting along* best?
3. How is your friend *getting along* in his new job?
4. Do you prefer to go to the movies *by yourself* or with someone?
5. Does your friend live *by himself* or with someone?
6. Did you come to the United States *by yourself* or with your family?
7. Do you like *to talk over* your personal problems with someone or do you prefer to decide these things *by yourself*?
8. Is it easy or difficult for you *to pick out* presents for your friends?
9. Does someone help you *to pick out* your clothes or do you like *to pick* them *out by yourself*?
10. What did you do *all day long* yesterday?
11. When the "Star-Spangled Banner" is played, what should one do: *stand up* or *sit down*?
12. Do you *take your time* when you are writing an examination or do you prefer to finish quickly?
13. What did the teacher just *take out* of the drawer of her desk?
14. During the lesson do you prefer to sit in front of the room or in the back – or doesn't it *make any difference*?
15. Why must Ellen *lie down* for several hours each afternoon?



# Lesson 4

1. to take part: (participate)
   1. Martin was sick and could not *take part* in the meeting last night.
   2. I did not want *to take part* in their argument.
2. at all: (to any degree, in the least – generally used only in a negative sense with "not" or "hardly")
   1. He said that he did not have any money *at all*.
   2. When I asked her teacher whether she was tired, she said, "Not *at all!*"
3. to look up: (to search for a word, a price, a telephone number, etc. – especially in a dictionary or catalogue where one must turn over pages) (S)
   1. Every student should *look up* all new words in his dictionary each day.
   2. Ellen said that she did not know Robert's number but that she would *look* it *up* in the telephone book.
   3. *Look* this date *up* in the dictionary, please.
4. to wait on (upon): (to serve, attend to – in a store or shop)
   1. A very pleasant young woman *waited on* me in Macy's yesterday.
   2. The clerk asked, "Have you been *waited on* yet, sir?"

5. at least: (a minimum of)
   1. Every student should spend *at least* two hours on his homework every night.
   2. Gloria has been sick in bed for *at least* two months.

6. so far: (up to the present time)
   1. *So far* John has been the best student in our English class.
   2. How many idioms have we studied in this book *so far* – 42 or 142?

7. to take a walk: (to go for a walk, promenade)
   1. Last evening we *took a walk* along Broadway.
   2. It is a fine day. How would you like *to take a walk* along Fifth Avenue?

8. to take a seat: (to sit down)
   1. He asked me to come in and *take a seat.*
   2. After a few minutes he said, "Won't you please *take a seat.*"

9. to try on: (to test, try before buying – said only of clothes) (S)
   1. He *tried on* several suits and finally picked out a blue one.
   2. Why is it necessary *to try on* shoes before buying them?
   3. *Try* this brown suit *on* next.

10. to think over: (to consider carefully before deciding) (S)
    1. I shall *think over* your offer and give you my answer tomorrow.
    2. You don't have to decide this matter at once. You can *think* it *over* and give me your decision tomorrow.



11. to take place: (to happen, occur)
    1. The meeting *took place* in Constitution Hall.
    2. Where did the accident *take place*?

12. to put away: (to set aside, return something to its proper place) (S)
    1. After John finished reading the report, he *put* it *away* in his safe.
    2. The mother told the child *to put* her toys *away.*
    3. *Put* your book *away;* it is time for lunch.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. You will first have to *search for* his number in the telephone book. (look____________)
2. He asked me to come in and *sit down.* (take__________)
3. The accident *occurred* on the corner of Broadway and 86th Street. (take____________)
4. I will *consider* your plan and give you an answer next week. (think____________)
5. The pitcher did not feel well enough to *participate* in the game. (take____________)
6. *Up to the present* we have enjoyed our trip very much. (so____________)
7. He doesn't speak English *to any degree.* (at__________)
8. The mother said to the child, "You have played long enough with your toys. Now please *return them to their proper place.*" (put____________)
9. Did a young man or a young woman *attend to* you in that store? (wait____________)
10. The salesman said to me. "Please *test* this coat just for size." (try____________)

11. You ought to spend two hours *as a minimum* in the fresh air every day. (at____________)
12. In the evening we *promenaded* down Fifth Avenue. (take____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How many new words do you have *to look up* in your dictionary every day?
2. If you do not know someone's telephone number, where do you *look* it *up*?
3. In what century did the American Revolution *take place*?
4. Where did the accident in which your friend was hurt *take place*?
5. How many idioms have we studied *so far* in this book —48 or 148?
6. *So far*, who is the best student in your English class?
7. What is the difference between *to wait for* a person and *to wait on* a person?
8. Why was Herbert not able *to take part* in the meeting last night?
9. Approximately how many different countries *take part* in the United Nations General Assembly each year?
10. Do you have any money with you or no money *at all*?
11. Does your friend speak English well, with some difficulty, or not *at all*?
12. If you go to a store to buy something, do you prefer to have a man or a woman *wait on* you?
13. How many pairs of shoes did you *try on* before buying the pair which you are now wearing?
14. Are you a neat person and do you always *put away* things after using them?
15. Do you like or dislike *to take part* in discussions about politics?

# Lesson 5

1. to shake hands: (to exchange greetings with a clasp of the hands)
   1. I introduced them and they *shook hands*.
   2. When two women meet for the first time, they do not usually *shake hands*.
2. to look out: (to be careful or cautious)
   1. "*Look out!*" John cried as his friend almost stepped in front of the approaching car.
   2. Why did the driver tell Mary *to look out* as she was getting off the bus?
   3. *Look out* for the cars turning in your direction.

3. to think of: (to have an opinion about) (S)
   1. What did you *think of* that movie which you saw last night?
   2. I don't *think* much *of* him as a baseball player.
4. to get back: (to return) (S)
   1. Mr. Harris *got back* from Chicago last night.
   2. When do you expect *to get back* from your trip?
   3. Can you *get* us *back* by five o'clock?
5. to catch cold: (to become sick with a cold)
   1. If you go out in this rain, you will surely *catch cold.*
   2. How did she ever *catch cold* in such warm weather?
6. to make up one's mind: (to decide)
   1. William has *made up his mind* not to go to college this year.
   2. Have you *made up your mind* yet as to where you are going to spend your vacation?
7. to change one's mind: (to alter one's decision or opinion)
   1. We have *changed our minds* and are going to Canada instead of to California on our vacation.
   2. Matthew has *changed his mind* about proposing to Joan at least three times.
8. for the time being: (for the present, temporarily)
   1. *For the time being* my sister is clerking in a department store.
   2. We are living in a hotel *for the time being*, but later we will try to find a small apartment.
9. to get over: (to recover from)
   1. It took me more than a month *to get over* my cold.
   2. I do not think he will ever *get over* the loss of his wife.



10. to call off: (to cancel) (S)
    1. The game was *called off* on account of darkness.
    2. The doctor had *to call off* all his appointments for the day and rush to the hospital.
    3. At first the workers planned to strike, but later they *called* it *off.*
11. for good: (permanently, forever)
    1. Ruth has gone back to California *for good.* She will not return to the East.
    2. Has your friend returned to South America *for good*?
12. in a hurry: (hurried, in a rush)
    1. John is *in a hurry* to catch his train.
    2. She is the kind of person who always seems to be *in a hurry.*

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom. For example, in Sentence 1 underline *canceled* since it is the corresponding term to *called off.*
   1. If a meeting is *called off,* it is (begun, crowded, interesting, canceled).
   2. If someone is *in a hurry,* he is (tired, rushed, ill, happy).
   3. To *get over* something is to (like it, buy it, overcome it, recover from it).
   4. When I say that someone finally *got back,* I mean that he finally (left, returned, woke up, rested).
   5. *To make up one's mind* is (to wait, to decide, to get up, to leave).
   6. If someone is in the United States *for good,* he is here (to do good, temporarily, to rest well, permanently).
   7. If someone says *"Look out!",* you should (put your head out of the window, be careful, sit down, go ahead).

8. If I say that I *don't think much of this book,* this means that I (never read it, seldom think about it, have a poor opinion of it).
9. *For the time being* means (up to now, in the near future, for the present).
10. Men *shake hands* when they (argue, are introduced to each other, become angry).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Do you often or seldom *catch cold*?
2. Do people *catch cold* more often in the winter than in the summer?
3. How long does it usually take you *to get over* a cold?
4. When a man is introduced to a woman, should he *shake hands* with her unless she offers her hand first?
5. Has your friend gone back to South America *for good* or only temporarily?
6. Has George stopped smoking *for good* or has he sworn off for only a month or so?
7. Why did the mother tell her child *to look out* before she crossed the street?
8. Why was the baseball game *called off* this afternoon?
9. Why did Mr. Smith *call off* his trip to Detroit?
10. When will John *get back* from Chicago?
11. When did Melba *get back* from Florida?
12. What do you *think of* this book?
13. What do you *think of* the weather we are having this week?
14. Is it easy or difficult for you *to make up your mind* about most things?
15. If you have once *made up your mind,* do you often or seldom *change your mind* later?
16. Can you now give good examples of these idioms in sentences: *get on, get off, get up, get back, get along*?



# Lesson 6

1. to hang up: (a. to place upon a hook or coat hanger; b. to replace the telephone in its cradle) (S)
   a. He *hung up* his coat in the closet.
   b. The operator told me *to hang up* and dial the same number again.
2. to leave out: (to omit) (S)
   1. You have *left out* your own name on this list.
   2. Why did you *leave out* the second question of your examination?
   3. Please *leave* me *out* of your plans.
3. to count on: (to depend upon)
   1. We are *counting on* you to help us with today's assignment.
   2. Don't *count on* Frank to lend you any money because he has none.
4. to make friends: (to win or gain friends)
   1. Patricia is a very shy girl and does not *make friends* easily.
   2. During the cruise William *made friends* with everyone on the ship.
5. out of order: (not in working condition)
   1. The elevator was *out of order* and we had to walk to the tenth floor.
   2. We could not use the telephone because it was *out of order.*
6. to get to: (to arrive at a place, home, work, etc.)
   1. I missed the bus and didn't *get to* the office until ten o'clock.

2. This train *gets to* Chicago at eleven o'clock tonight.
3. What time did you *get* home from the movie last night?

7. at times: (sometimes, occasionally)
   1. *At times* he does much better work than on other occasions.
   2. *At times* she feels a little better but then she becomes very weak again.

8. to look over: (to examine) (S)
   1. I want *to look over* these exercises before I give them to the teacher.
   2. He signed the contract without even *looking* it *over*.

9. to have time off, to take time off: (to have free time, not to have to work)
   1. We *have time off* for a coffee break every morning.
   2. He works only five days a week and *has every Saturday and Sunday off*.
   3. I expect to *take the whole summer off*.

10. to keep on: (to continue)
    1. John *kept on* talking although the teacher asked him several times to stop.
    2. They *kept on* playing their radio until three o'clock in the morning.

11. to put out: (to extinguish) (S)
    1. You can *put out* your cigarette in that ashtray.
    2. The firemen worked hard but were not able *to put out* the fire.
    3. Be sure *to put out* the light before you leave. Yes, I'll *put* it *out*.

12. all of a sudden: (suddenly)
    1. *All of a sudden* John appeared at the door.
    2. *All of a sudden* Millie got up and left the house.



## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

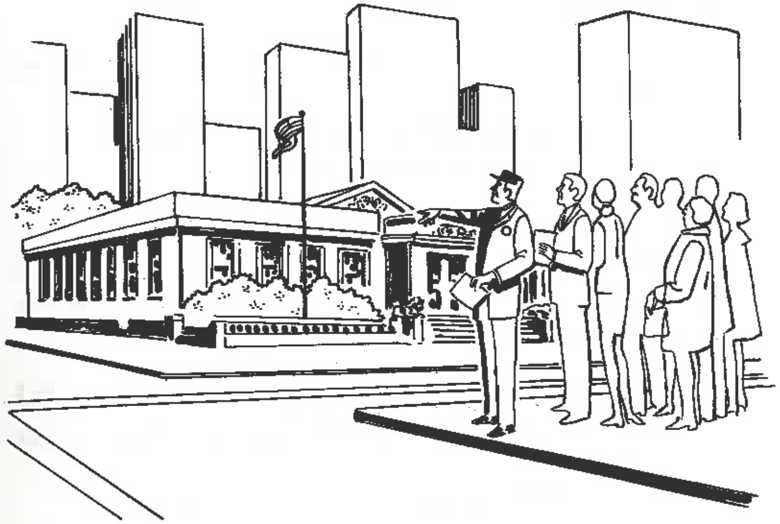
1. *To have time off* is to (be busy, have free time, be ill, be without a job).
2. *To keep on* doing something is to (stop doing it, continue doing it, begin doing it)
3. *At times* means (often, never, on time, occasionally).
4. When I say that I *got* there at ten o'clock, I mean that at ten o'clock I (left there, waited there, arrived there, stayed there).
5. *To count on* someone is to (like him, arrest him, doubt him, depend upon him).
6. If something is *out of order*, it is (old, not in working condition, modern, old-fashioned).
7. If you *leave out* something, you (omit it, sign it, look it up, cancel it).
8. *To look over* something is to (wait for it, look it up, examine it, purchase it).
9. When I *put out* my cigarette, I (light it, smoke it, enjoy it, extinguish it).
10. *All of a sudden* has the same meaning as (later, early, suddenly, slowly).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Until what time did your neighbor *keep on* playing his radio last night?
2. Why does Carlos *keep on* studying English if he finds it so difficult?
3. How long did it take the firemen *to put out* the fire?
4. Where may I *put out* my cigarette?
5. Why do you say that you can never *count on* William to help you with anything?
6. If we tell Ella our secret, can we *count on* her not to tell anyone else?

7. How many days each week do you *have off* from work?
8. Do you always *have Saturdays off*?
9. Do you always *look over* your homework before you give it to the teacher? Do you ever ask a friend to *look* it *over* for you?
10. Is the elevator in your building seldom or often *out of order*?
11. What do you do when you find the telephone *out of order*?
12. Why did William *leave out* the first two questions on his examination?
13. When you spell English words, do you seldom or never *leave out* some of the letters?
14. What time did you *get to* school this morning?
15. What time did you *get* home last night after the movie?
16. Can you give good examples of these idioms in sentences: *look over, look up, look out, look at, look for*?

# Lesson 7



1. to point out: (to indicate) (S)
   1. What important buildings did the guide *point out* to you in your trip around the city?
   2. The teacher *pointed out* the mistakes in my composition.
   3. A friend *pointed* the President *out* to me.
2. to be over: (to be finished, ended)
   1. After the dance *was over*, we all went to a restaurant.
   2. The chairman said that the meeting *would be over* in an hour.

3. to be up: (to be ended – said only of time)
   1. "The time *is up*," the teacher said at the end of the hour.
   2. We will have to stop practicing the piano. The time *is up*.

4. on time: (exactly at or before an appointed time)
   1. We must hurry if we wish to arrive at the opera *on time*.
   2. Did you get to work *on time* this morning?
   3. The 5:15 train to Jamaica left *on time*.

5. in time: (within or sometime before an appointed time or a deadline)
   1. We got to the movie just *in time* to see both pictures.
   2. Did you get to the station *in time*?

6. to get better, worse, etc.: (to become better, worse, etc.)
   1. John has been sick for a month but now he is *getting better*.
   2. Is your headache *getting better* or *worse*?

7. to get sick, well, tired, wet, busy, etc.: (to become sick, well, tired, wet, busy, etc. Different adverbs may be used after *get* in this construction.)
   1. John *got sick* last January and has been in bed since then.
   2. Every afternoon at about four o'clock I *get* very *hungry*.

8. had better: (it is advisable to, it would be better to. Most often used in contracted form such as *I'd better, you'd better, she'd better, he'd better, we'd better, they'd better.)*
   1. I think *you'd better* speak to Mr. Smith immediately about this matter.



   2. The doctor told his patient that *he'd better* go home and rest for a few days.

9. would rather: (to prefer to)
   1. *I'd rather* go for a walk than watch TV tonight.
   2. *Would* you *rather* have your next lesson on Monday or on Tuesday?

10. by the way: (incidentally)
    1. *By the way*, have you seen the new picture which is playing at Radio City this week?
    2. That widower told me, *by the way*, that he never expected to remarry.

11. to figure out: (to calculate, to study carefully in order to understand) (S)
    1. This letter is so badly written that I can't *figure out* what the writer is trying to say.
    2. How long did it take you *to figure out* the cost of that machine?
    3. Ben is most attractive and intelligent, and yet Moira won't marry him. I can't *figure* her *out*.

12. to put off: (to postpone) (S)
    1. The meeting was *put off* until next week.
    2. There is an old saying in English which goes, "Never *put off* until tomorrow what you can do today."
    3. If Tom can't come to the conference, let's *put* it *off* until tomorrow.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.
   1. If I say that the meeting *is over*, I mean that the meeting has (just begun, ended, been interesting, been called off).

2. If I say that *I'd rather* wait, I mean that I (like to wait, refuse to wait, prefer to wait).
3. If I say that, after studying the message, I finally *figured it out*, this means that at last I (answered the message, understood it, put it away, picked it up).
4. If the month *is up*, this means that the period of one month has (ended, begun, seemed long, been very warm).
5. *To put off* something means to (look for it, put it in place, cancel it, postpone it).
6. *To get sick* means to (be sick, become sick, be well).
7. If the doctor says that *you'd better* do a certain thing, this means that (you must do it, you are going to do it, it is advisable that you do it).
8. *To point out* something is to (need it, touch it, look it up, indicate it).
9. *By the way* is a synonym for (however, at last, incidentally, immediately).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. At what time *is* your lesson *over*?
2. At what hour *was* the meeting *over* last time?
3. Do you always arrive at the lesson *on time* or do you sometimes arrive late?
4. Why did the President have *to put off* his trip to California?
5. Why is it better never *to put off* until tomorrow what you can do today?
6. What is the difference in meaning between *to put off* and *to call off*?
7. Do you *get tired* if you have to walk a long distance?
8. What do you generally do when you *get hungry*? What do you do when you *get thirsty*? When you *get sleepy*? When you *get tired*? When you *get sick*?
9. Do you sometimes *get nervous* before an examination or do you have iron nerves?



10. Where *would* you *rather* go tonight – to the theater or to the opera?
11. Where *would* you *rather* sit, in the orchestra or in the balcony?
12. *Would* you *rather* go by bus or by taxi?
13. Why did the teacher tell William that he *had better* spend more time on his lessons?
14. Can you give good examples of these idioms in sentences: *to put on, to put off, to put away, to put out*?

# Lesson 8

1. to be about to: (to be on the point of, ready)

   1. I *was* just *about to* leave when you telephoned.
   2. We *were about to* start dinner when Tina arrived.
   3. Have you gone to bed yet? No, but I *was* just *about to*.

2. to turn around: (to make a complete turn in order to face in the opposite direction) (S)

   1. I *turned around* and saw that Gertrude was sitting directly behind me.
   2. The man *turned* the car *around* and drove in the opposite direction.

3. to take turns: (to alternate)

   1. During the trip John and I *took turns* driving the car; he would drive for about two hundred miles and then I would drive for about another hundred miles.
   2. Mary and her sister *take turns* helping their mother each night.

4. to pay attention: (to give attention to, place importance upon)
   1. He never *pays attention* to anything his wife says.
   2. You will have *to pay* more *attention* in class if you wish to get a better mark.

5. to go on: (to continue, proceed)
   1. John *went on* reading and paid no attention to any of us.
   2. "*Go on! Go on!*" she said. "Tell me everything that happened."

6. over and over: (repeatedly)
   1. I have told him the same thing *over and over.*
   2. He seems to make the same mistake *over and over* again.

7. to wear out: (to become shabby and useless from wear) (S)
   1. I must buy a new suit. This one is *worn out.*
   2. What do you do with your old clothes when they are *worn out*?
   3. Rough roads *wear* my tires *out.*

8. to throw away: (to discard) (S)
   1. When my clothes are worn out, I generally *throw* them *away.*
   2. Don't *throw* those magazines *away.* I haven't seen them yet.

9. to fall in love: (to begin to love)
   1. They *fell in love* when they were students in high school.
   2. John *falls in love* with every new girl he meets.



10. to go out: (to leave – also to cease burning)
    1. When I telephoned they told me that he had *gone out.*
    2. Have you a match? This cigarette has *gone out.*
    3. The match *went out* before he had a chance to light the fire.

11. as yet: (up to the present time, as of now)
    1. *As yet* we have not had an answer from him.
    2. He says that she has not telephoned him *as yet.*

12. to have to do with: (to have some connection with)
    1. Does the new vice-president *have* anything *to do with* the work of the export department?
    2. Ralph insists that he *had* nothing *to do with* writing that letter.
    3. What does that new director *have to do with* me?

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. She and Helen *alternated* helping the teacher after school. (take__________)
2. *Up to the present* we have no information about him. (as__________)
3. The police say that he *was not connected* with the crime. (have__________)
4. He had on a pair of shoes which were completely *useless from wear.* (wear__________)
5. He told us the same thing *repeatedly.* (over________)
6. Why don't you *discard* those old newspapers? (throw __________)
7. I was *on the point of* calling you when your telegram arrived. (about__________)

8. He *continued* talking as though nothing had happened. (go________)
9. Each time he tried to light his cigar the match *ceased burning.* (go________)
10. She *began to love* him when she was only a child. (fall ________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why did the driver have *to turn* the car *around?*
2. Whom do you see when you *turn around*?
3. Why do the two girls *take turns* helping their mother each night?
4. Who *took turns* with William driving the car on their trip to Florida?
5. Whom were you *about to* telephone when your friend called?
6. What were you *about to* say when I interrupted you?
7. When your clothes are *worn out,* do you *throw* them *away* or give them to someone?
8. Do you like to keep old magazines or do you always *throw* them *away?*
9. Why did William *throw away* that newspaper?
10. Do you always *pay attention* in class to everything the teacher says?
11. Did Joseph *have* anything *to do with* breaking the window in the school or was he in the clear?
12. Do the students in your school *have* anything *to do with* preparing the school newspaper?
13. Have you ever *fallen in love* with anyone?
14. Why do some people seem *to fall in love* more easily than others?
15. If a cigarette *goes out* while you are smoking it, what must you do?
16. At what time last night did you *go out*?

# Lesson 9

1. to wake up: (to awaken) (S)
   1. Marge *woke up* this morning very early but did not get up until about ten o'clock.
   2. I *wake up* at the same time every morning without having to use an alarm clock.
   3. An explosion in the street *woke* us *up.*
2. to be in charge of: (to manage, be responsible for)
   1. Henry *is in charge of* the office while Mr. Smith is away.
   2. Who *is in charge of* the arrangements for the dance next week?

3. to have charge of, take charge of: (to have or to take management of, to have or take responsibility for, attend to)
   1. That red-haired man *has charge of* this supermarket.
   2. Mary *has charge of* all the arrangements for the dance.
   3. Who is going *to take charge of* hiring an orchestra?
4. to get in touch with: (to communicate with)
   1. You can *get in touch with* him by telephone by calling the Hotel Commodore.
   2. I have been trying all morning *to get in touch with* Mr. Jones.
5. to have a good time: (to enjoy oneself, pass a period of time pleasantly)
   1. We all *had a good time* at the party last night.
   2. Did you *have a good time* at the dance?
6. to take care of: (to watch, give attention to)
   1. Who will *take care of* your dog while you are away on your vacation?
   2. The doctor says that his patient should *take* better *care of* herself.
   3. "Don't worry about a thing," Henry said. "I will *take care of* everything."
7. once in a while: (occasionally, now and then)
   1. Previously I saw him very often but now he comes only *once in a while.*
   2. *Once in a while* he goes with us to the movies on Saturday night.
8. quite a few: (many)
   1. *Quite a few* students were absent yesterday.
   2. We did not expect many to attend but *quite a few* people came to the meeting.



9. used to: (indicates an action or habit which continued for some period of time in the past but eventually ended)
   1. I *used to* buy my suits at Macy's. Now I buy them at Barney's.
   2. When I was younger, I *used to* play tennis quite well.
10. to be used to: (to be accustomed to)
    Note: *To be used to* refers to the continuing present; *used to,* as explained above, relates to the past. *Used to* is always followed by a verb; *to be used to* is followed by a noun or a gerund.
    1. He *is used to* this climate and the changes in temperature do not affect him.
    2. I *am used to* studying with Mr. Jones and therefore prefer not to change to another teacher.
11. to get used to: (to become used or adjusted to)
    1. You will soon *get used to* this climate and then the changes in temperature will not affect you.
    2. I can't seem *to get used to* wearing glasses.
12. to make believe: (to pretend)
    1. George *made believe* that he was sick so that he would not have to go to school.
    2. Do you think that Mary was only *making believe* that she was tired?

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.
   1. I used to meet him *occasionally* on Fifth Avenue. (once ______________)

2. Helen has promised *to watch and care for* the baby while we go to the movies. (take____________)
3. *Many* people were injured in the accident. (quite____________)
4. He *formerly played* the violin in a famous orchestra. (used____________)
5. We *enjoyed ourselves* at the picnic. (have____________)
6. I will *communicate* with you as soon as I have any news. (get____________)
7. You will *become accustomed to* his manner of speaking soon. (get____________)
8. Who *is responsible for* that work while Mr. Stein is away? (have____________)
9. He *pretended* that he could not walk without a cane. (make____________)
10. What time did you *awaken* this morning? (wake____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How can I *get in touch with* you tomorrow?
2. Why were you unable *to get in touch with* Eliza last night?
3. What time did you *wake up* this morning; what time did you *get up*?
4. Do you have to use an alarm clock in order *to wake up* each morning?
5. Did the thunderstorm *wake you up* last night?
6. Who *is in charge of* the cafeteria in your school?
7. Who *is in charge of* the business office in your school?
8. Do you like or dislike *to take care of* young children?
9. Who *takes care of* preparing the meals and buying the food in your home?
10. Do you go to the movies frequently or only *once in a while*?



11. Do you prepare your lessons every night or only *once in a while*?
12. Did you *have a good time* at the party last Saturday night?
13. Who *used to be* your English teacher before you began to study in your present class?
14. Why did William *make believe* that he was sick?

# Lesson 10

1. to make sure: (to be sure, become sure or certain of)
   1. *Make sure* to turn off the radio before you go out.
   2. He told me *to make sure* to telephone him at exactly three o'clock.
   3. *Make sure* that the lights are turned off before you leave.
2. now and then: (occasionally)
   1. I don't see him very often, but *now and then* we have lunch in the same restaurant.
   2. I don't often get sick, but *now and then* I do catch cold.
3. to make out: (to do, succeed)
   1. I did not *make out* very well on my last examination.
   2. How did Raymond *make out* when he went to look for work yesterday?
4. to keep house: (to do the usual work of running a home, cooking, cleaning, etc.)
   1. He said that he wanted his wife *to keep house* and not to work in an office.

2. She likes *to keep house* and has a reputation as an excellent housekeeper.

5. to go with: (to match, harmonize in color or design)

That psychedelic tie doesn't *go with* that red shirt at all.

6. to go with: (to go out together, to keep company with, as in the case of a young man and woman who frequently go out together or have dates)
   1. John has been *going with* Mary for about two years; they plan to get married next month.
   2. Helen *went with* Richard for about six months, but now she has a new boy friend.

7. to come from: (to originate in – often used to refer to one's home district)
   1. I thought that he *came from* Texas but it seems that he *comes from* New England.
   2. What part of South America does she *come from*?

8. to make good time: (to travel rapidly at good speed)
   1. We *made* very *good time* on our trip to Florida.
   2. It rained all the time and so we did not *make good time* driving to New York.

9. to mix up – to be mixed up – to get mixed up: (to confuse – to be confused – to become confused) (S)
   1. Instead of helping me, his explanation only *mixed* me *up*.
   2. We got *mixed up* in our directions, took the wrong road, and drove many miles out of our way.
   3. The postman *mixed up* my mail.

10. to see about: (to attend to, take care of)
    1. Who is going *to see about* getting us a larger room for this big class?



    2. The Registrar said that he would *see about* it. Do you think at the same time he will *see about* our getting permission to meet at a different hour?

11. to get rid of: (to become free of, escape from)
    1. We can't seem *to get rid of* the mice in our apartment.
    2. It certainly took Mr. Smith a long time *to get rid of* that salesman.

12. by heart: (by memory)
    1. He knows many passages from Shakespeare *by heart*.
    2. American school children should learn Lincoln's Gettysburg Address *by heart*.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. If I say John is *making out* well in his work, I mean that he (likes his work, is succeeding, is leaving, is about to begin).
2. When one *makes good time*, he (has a good time, travels at a good speed, is contented).
3. To learn something *by heart* is to learn it (quickly, slowly, well, memorize it).
4. One way of *getting rid of* something is to (look at it, admire it, keep it, throw it away).
5. If Mary's purse *goes well with* her dress, then her purse and dress (match, are expensive, are pretty, are worn out).
6. *Now and then* means (often, suddenly, early, occasionally).
7. *To make sure of* something is to (be certain of it, call it off, turn it off).

8. *To keep house* is to (refuse to sell, lock the door against thieves, do the usual work in a house).
9. *To be mixed up* is to be (happy, worried, confused, late).
10. *To see about* something is to (attend to it, go to see it, admire it, look at it).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How did you *make out* in your last English examination?
2. When John went to look for work yesterday, how did he *make out*? Did he fail to get the job or was he hired?
3. What different colors *go well with* brown? What different colors *go well* with green?
4. How long has William *been going with* Grace?
5. How long did Ellen and Henry *go together* before they *got married*?
6. Do you go to the movies very often or only *now and then*?
7. What is the best way *to get rid of* mice in an apartment?
8. Is it easy or difficult *to get rid of* a foreign accent?
9. Why do some women prefer to work rather than *to keep house*?
10. What part of Europe did Charles De Gaulle *come from?*
11. What part of the United States does your English teacher *come from*?
12. Do you seldom or never *get mixed up* in using English idioms?
13. What is the difference between *to have a good time* and *to make good time*?
14. What famous poems or speeches do you know *by heart*?
15. Is it easy or difficult for you to learn things *by heart*?



# Lesson 11

## (General Review — Lessons 1-10)

A. In the blank spaces at the right, give a ONE-WORD synonym for the italicized word or words. Follow the example in the first sentence.

1. He did not want to *take part* in the meeting. **participate**
2. He *called up* all his friends to say good-bye. ____________
3. He *took off* his hat and coat. ____________
4. I'll be back *right away*. ____________
5. Be sure to *put out* the light before you leave. ____________
6. They *got on* the train in Washington. ____________
7. We waited and *at last* he arrived. ____________
8. I was unable to *find out* his name. ____________
9. His health is improving *little by little*. ____________
10. Last night some friends *called on* us. ____________
11. She lives *by herself* in a furnished room. ____________
12. We *talked over* your problem for a long time. ____________
13. I want to *pick out* a present for my friend. ____________
14. John is *getting along* well in his studies. ____________

15. The accident *took place* on Fifth Avenue. __________
16. We expect him to *get back* next week. __________
17. He has *made up his mind* to stay with us. __________
18. The game was *called off* on account of rain. __________
19. She has gone back to California *for good.* __________
20. *All of a sudden* the lights went out. __________
21. *At times* he does much better work. __________
22. He *kept on* talking for two hours. __________
23. The meeting was *put off* until next week. __________
24. *By the way*, have you seen John recently? __________
25. We *took turns* driving the car. __________
26. I have told him the same thing *over and over.* __________
27. Don't *throw away* those magazines yet. __________
28. You can *get in touch with* him at his office. __________
29. I *woke up* very early this morning. __________
30. He comes here *once in a while.* __________
31. He *made believe* that he was ill. __________
32. I see him *now and then* on Fifth Avenue. __________
33. These gloves do not *go with* this dress. __________



34. We got *mixed up* in our directions. __________
35. He broke the mirror *on purpose.* __________

B. Substitute, in place of the italicized sections, an idiomatic expression with *to get.* (Examples: *get on, get off, get along, get back, get over, get sick, get to a place, get in touch with, get used to, get rid of,* etc.)

1. How is Helen *doing* in her new job?
   (Example: How is Helen *getting along* in her new job?)
2. Mr. Evans will not *return* until next week.
3. You can *communicate with* him by writing to him at the Hotel Roosevelt.
4. We are gradually *becoming accustomed to* this climate.
5. We didn't *arrive in* Washington until almost eight o'clock.
6. We *boarded* the bus at 34th Street.
7. It took him several months to *recover from* the attack of pneumonia.
8. His hat fell in the lake and *became* wet.

C. Substitute, in place of the italicized sections, an idiomatic expression with *to take.* (Examples: *take off, take out, take part in, take a walk, take place, take turns, take care of,* etc.)

1. John did not *participate in* our discussion.
2. She *removed* her hat and gloves.
3. He *extracted* a dollar bill from his wallet.
4. John and I *alternated* helping the teacher to clean the blackboards.
5. The accident *occurred* on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 23rd Street.
6. Ruth will *watch* the baby while we go to the movies.

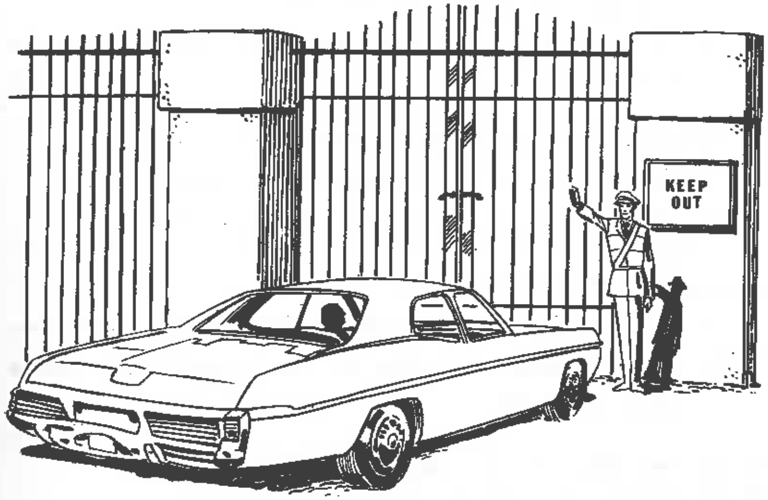
D. Substitute, in place of the italicized sections, an idiomatic expression with *to look.* (Examples: *look at, look for, look up, look out, look over)*

1. He is *seeking* the fountain pen which he lost yesterday.
2. You will have to *search for* his number in the telephone book.
3. I will *examine* this and return it to you tomorrow.
4. He stood *watching* me as though he had never seen me before.

E. Make up sentences, oral and written, using the following idioms.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| to put on | to call up | to make up one's mind. |
| to put off | to call on | to make believe |
| to put away | to call off | to make good |

# Lesson 12




*(Section II — Intermediate)*

1. to keep out, off, away from, etc.: (to stay out, off, away from) (S)
   1. There was a large sign just outside the door which said: "Danger! *Keep out!*"
   2. *Keep* that dog *out* of this store!
   3. The policeman told the boys *to keep off* the grass.
   4. You must *keep* your dog *off* our property.
2. to find fault with: (to criticize)
   1. It is very easy *to find fault with* the work of others.
   2. He is always *finding fault with* the work of his secretary.

3. to be up to someone: (to depend upon the decision of someone)
   1. It's *up to you* whether we go to the reception or not. It's not *up to me.*
   2. It *is up to the President* to decide how many troops will be sent.

4. off and on: (irregularly, occasionally)
   1. We don't go to the theater often – just *off and on.*
   2. He comes here *off and on* to see my father.

5. to catch fire: (to begin to burn)
   1. No one seems to know how the building *caught fire.*
   2. Do not stand too close to that stove. Your clothes may *catch fire.*

6. to look into: (to investigate, examine carefully)
   1. The police are *looking into* the past record of the suspect.
   2. The electrician has promised *to look into* our faulty wiring and give us an estimate next week.

7. to take hold of: (to grasp)
   1. The two movers *took hold of* the opposite ends of the table and carried it out easily.
   2. The blind man *took hold of* my arm and I led him across the street.

8. to be out of the question: (to be impossible)
   1. When I asked my brother whether he could go with us on a cruise he said that it *was out of the question* at this time of the year.
   2. Germany's demands *were out of the question,* and England answered by declaring war.



9. to get through: (to finish)
   1. I didn't *get through* studying last night until almost eleven o'clock.
   2. What time does your sister *get through* work every day?

10. all at once: (suddenly)
    1. *All at once* the sky became dark and it started to rain.
    2. We were walking along Fifth Avenue when *all at once* we heard a shot.

11. to keep track of: (to keep or maintain a record of)
    1. Do you *keep track of* the long distance telephone calls which you make in your office each month?
    2. We are going to *keep track of* all our expenses while we are in Mexico.

12. to call down: (to reprimand, scold) (S)
    1. John was *called down* by his boss for coming late to work.
    2. Don't *call* Mary *down* for that mistake. I'm sure that she didn't make it on purpose.
    3. My supervisor *called* me *down* for being habitually late.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

   1. That fabric is made of a material which *begins to burn* easily. (catch____________)
   2. There were signs everywhere telling people to *remain outside.* (keep____________)
   3. *Suddenly* there was a loud noise and the door flew open. (all____________)

4. The mayor has promised to *investigate* the public scandal thoroughly. (look__________)
5. We see him *occasionally*. (off__________)
6. *You must decide this* – not I. (be up__________)
7. He had to *grasp* the railings to keep from falling. (take__________)
8. I *finished* at about eight o'clock. (get__________)
9. Such a thing is absolutely *impossible*. (out of__________)
10. We must *maintain a record* of all our expenses. (keep__________)
11. He often *reprimands* her for coming late. (call__________)
12. He seems to enjoy *criticizing* my work. (find__________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why should one always *take hold of* the railing when he goes downstairs?
2. Who *took hold of* your arm as you crossed the street?
3. What time did you *get through* studying last night?
4. What time does your father *get through* work every day?
5. Why do they have so many signs near that munitions factory telling everyone *to keep out*?
6. Why are there so many signs in the park saying: "*Keep off the grass*"?
7. Is it easy or difficult to *find fault with* the work of others?
8. Do you watch TV every night or just *off and on*?
9. Do you go to the theater regularly or just *off and on*?
10. Does paper *catch fire* more easily or less easily than wood?
11. What other materials *catch fire* easily?
12. Do you *keep track of* the money which you spend every day?



13. *Is it up to* you or up to your parents to decide where you will go tonight?
14. *Is it up to* Henry or to his parents to decide which university he will attend?
15. Why did the teacher *call the student down* for coming late to the lesson?

# Lesson 13

1. up to date: (timely, modern, brought up to the present time)
   1. This mail-order catalogue is not *up to date*. It was published several years ago.
   2. That new structure is one of the most modern and *up-to-date* apartment houses in the city.

2. out of date: (no longer available, current, or in use)
   1. Silent movies have been *out of date* for many years.
   2. She insists on wearing *out-of-date* styles of clothing.

3. to blow up: (to destroy by explosion, to explode) (S)
   1. When the torpedo struck it, the ship immediately *blew up*.
   2. Why did the soldiers *blow up* all the bridges when they retreated?
   3. Did they have to *blow* them all *up*?

4. to do over: (to repeat) (S)
   1. The teacher made all of us *do* our exercises *over* because there were so many mistakes in them.

2. This letter is so badly written that I think I'd better *do* it *over*.
3. The violinist *did* that difficult passage *over and over*.

5. to burn down: (to burn to the ground) (S)
   1. Their home *burned down* and they had to build a new one.
   2. The fire spread quickly and, before the firemen arrived, the whole block of old buildings had *burned down*.
   3. After that sagging barn collapsed, the farmer *burned* it *down*.

6. to burn up: (to burn completely) (S)
   1. He *burned up* the letter and threw the ashes into the fireplace.
   2. All his books were *burned up* in the fire.

7. to burn out: (to stop functioning, become useless – said of electrical equipment) (S)
   1. There are no lights anywhere in the house. Perhaps a fuse has *burned out*.
   2. We need some new electric light bulbs. Both of these bulbs are *burned out*.
   3. If you overload that fuse, you will *burn* it *out*.

8. to make good: (to succeed)
   1. He is a hard worker, and I am sure that he will *make good* in that new job.
   2. Alma has always *made good* in everything she has done.

9. to stand to reason: (to be clear and logical)
   1. *It stands to reason* that if he never prepares his lessons, he is not going to make good progress.



   2. *It stands to reason* that a person without experience cannot do the work as well as an experienced person.

10. to break out: (to occur suddenly)
    1. The newspaper says that an epidemic of influenza has just *broken out* in London.
    2. He was living in France when the war *broke out*.

11. as to: (concerning, with reference to)
    1. *As to* money, we will simply have to borrow some from the bank.
    2. He had nothing at all to say *as to* when he expected his wife to get back.

12. to feel sorry for: (to pity, feel compassion for)
    1. I *feel sorry for* anyone who has to do that menial kind of work.
    2. I *feel* more *sorry for* his wife than I do for him.

13. to take something for granted: (to accept as true without investigation) (S)
    1. He spoke English so well that I *took it for granted* that he was an American.
    2. She simply *took it for granted* that the check was good and did not ask him any questions about it.
    3. Don't *take everybody's promises for granted*.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized word or words.
   1. *To blow up* is to (increase in size, explode, decrease in size, ache).
   2. If a place *burns down*, it (burns rapidly, does not burn at all, burns out, burns to the ground).

3. *To burn up* is to (burn slowly, burn completely, explode, go out).
4. Which of the following can *burn out* (a desk, a ship, a fuse, a curtain).
5. If I say that Allan *made good* in his last position, I mean that he (always arrived on time, failed, liked it, succeeded).
6. If I say that something *stands to reason,* this means that it is (difficult to understand, clear and logical, foolish).
7. *As to that* means (because of that, in addition to that, concerning that, despite that).
8. *To feel sorry for* someone is to (like him, pity him, praise him, call him down).
9. Instead of saying that an epidemic has *happened suddenly,* we generally say that it has (stopped, burned out, broken out).
10. *To take something for granted* is to (permit it, object to it, look it over, accept it without investigation).

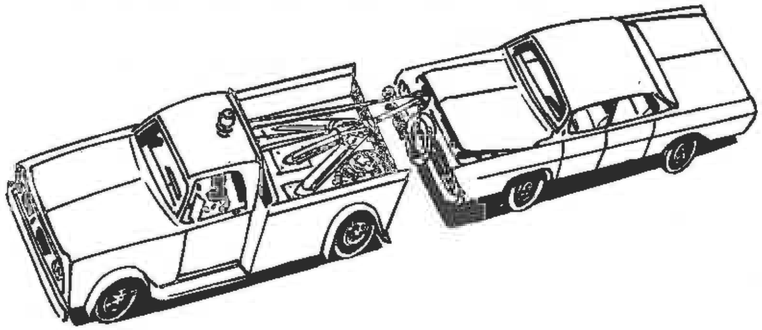
B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. What is the difference between burning something and *burning* something *up?*
2. What is the difference between *to burn up* and *to burn down*?
3. If a building burns to the ground, do we say that it *burned up* or *burned down?*
4. What happens to the lights in your home when a fuse *burns out?*
5. What do you do with electric lights when they *burn out?*
6. Do you prefer things which are *out of date* or those which are *up to date?*
7. Which is the most *up-to-date* department store in your city?
8. Why did you *take it for granted* that Mr. Livingston was an American?



9. Why did you *take it for granted* that the weather would be good today?
10. Why did you *take it for granted* that you were going to receive a good mark in English?
11. Why did you have *to do over* the grammar exercises which you prepared last night?
12. Do you like or dislike to have *to do* things *over*?
13. Why does his employer feel sure that John will *make good* in his new job?
14. Why does it *stand to reason* that Mary will learn English faster than Juanita?
15. Why does it *stand to reason* that the climate of Panama will be warmer than the climate of Florida?
16. In what year did World War II *break out*?
17. Has an epidemic of influenza ever *broken out* in your country?

# Lesson 14



1. to break down: (to stop functioning – said generally of motors and similar mechanical objects)
   1. Our car *broke down*, and they had to tow it to a garage.
   2. The elevator *broke down*, and we had to walk up to the tenth floor.
2. to turn out: (to become or result, to eject) (S)
   1. Although it looked like rain this morning, it has *turned out* to be a fine day.
   2. Julie has *turned out* to be the best student in our English class.





   3. Because her son mistreated her, his mother *turned* him *out* of the house.

3. to become of: (to happen to – said of someone or something missing)
   1. What has *become of* my pencil? I had it ten minutes ago.
   2. I wonder what has *become of* John. I haven't seen him in weeks.
4. to give up: (to surrender, renounce) (S)
   1. The enemy *gave up* without any resistance.
   2. King Edward VIII *gave up* his throne in order to marry the woman he loved.
   3. Our teacher has tried many times *to give up* smoking, but he can't seem to *give* it *up*.
5. to take pity on: (to pity)
   1. Tom's sister *took pity on* him and lent him some money.
   2. I *took pity on* those slum dwellers when I saw how wretchedly they lived, and promised to help them.
6. to cross out: (to cancel – often by marking with crosses) (S)
   1. The teacher *crossed out* several words in my composition.
   2. Why did you *cross out* the last line of your letter?
   3. I *crossed* it *out* because it was repetitious.
7. to take into account – (to take into consideration) (S)
   1. In judging her work you should *take into account* that she has been quite sick recently.
   2. That salesman never *takes into account* the fact that I am very busy.

3. The judge *took* the prisoner's youth *into account* before sentencing him.

8. to make clear: (to explain, clarify) (S)
   1. The teacher *made clear* my mistake.
   2. You must *make clear* to him that he should never be rude again.
   3. His explanation *made* the problem *clear* to me.

9. to take a look at: (to look at)
   1. *Take a look at* the hat Mrs. Bisby is wearing today.
   2. He *took one look at* her and began to laugh.

10. to have on: (to be wearing) (S)
    1. How do you like the hat which Grace *has on* today?
    2. When I went into the room, he *had* nothing *on* except a pair of shorts.

11. to come to: (to revive, regain consciousness)
    1. She fainted and it was at least a half an hour before she *came to.*
    2. At first they thought the man was dead but soon he *came to.*

12. to call for: (to come to an office, home, store, etc., in order to get someone or something)
    1. He promised *to call for* me at home at seven o'clock.
    2. There is a sign in the shop which says, "We *Call For* and Deliver."

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. It has *resulted* to be a very fine meeting. (turn__________)



2. What has *happened to* my new notebook? (become__________)
3. It was difficult for him to *stop the habit of* smoking. (give__________)
4. The judge seemed *to pity* the old man and gave him a light sentence. (take__________)
5. You must *consider* the fact that he has had little education. (take__________)
6. *Look at* the woman who is sitting across from us. (take__________)
7. It was almost a half hour before she *revived.* (come__________)
8. She *canceled with crosses* two of the answers on my examination paper. (cross__________)
9. We will *come to pick you up* at eight o'clock. (call__________)
10. Their automobile *ceased to function,* and John had to walk six miles to the nearest garage. (break________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. What color dress does Mary *have on* today?
2. What is the shade of the suit John *has on* today?
3. Who has *turned out* to be the best student in your English class?
4. Has the weather this month *turned out* to be warm or cold?
5. Has the study of English idioms *turned out* to be interesting or dull for you?
6. Is it easy or difficult for a person *to give up* smoking?
7. Why is George going *to give up* studying English?
8. Why did you *take pity on* that old man who asked you for money?
9. Why did Esther *take pity on* that cat and let it come into her house?
10. When someone faints, what should you do in order to make him *come to*?

11. When someone you knew fainted, how long was it before he or she *came to*?
12. What did the doctor do to make the unconscious person *come to*?
13. What time are your friends going to *call for* you tonight?
14. When are you going *to call for* the things which you are sending to the dry cleaner?
15. What facts should we *take into account* when we judge Juan's progress in English?
16. Can you give good examples of these idioms in sentences: *to call up, to call down, to call on, to call off, to call for*?

# Lesson 15

1. to eat in – to eat out: (*to eat in* means to eat at home; *to eat out* means to eat in a restaurant)
   1. We *ate in* last night but tonight we are going *to eat out*.
   2. When you *eat out*, what restaurant do you generally go to?
2. to play tricks on – to play jokes on: (to make someone the victim of a trick or joke)
   1. The older boys are always *playing tricks on* Carl. They hide his hat, steal his books, etc.
   2. They tried *to play a trick on* the professor but he was too clever for them.
3. to look after: (to watch, take care of)
   1. Grandma will *look after* the baby while we go to the lecture.
   2. Who is going *to look after* your correspondence while you are away?



4. to feel like: (to be inclined, have the desire to)
   1. I don't *feel like* studying tonight. Let's go to a hockey game.
   2. I *feel like* taking a long walk. Would you like to go with me?
5. once and for all: (in a final manner, definitively)
   1. My daughter told her would-be boy friend *once and for all* that she wouldn't go out with him.
   2. She said that he should stop telephoning her late at night, *once and for all.*
6. to hear from: (to receive news from)
   1. Have you *heard from* John recently?
   2. His parents are worried because they haven't *heard from* their son in more than two months.
7. to hear of: (to know about, to hear mention of)
   1. Have you ever *heard of* the English poet John Keats?
   2. The owner of the building said that he had never *heard of* such a person.
8. to make fun of: (to laugh at, joke about)
   1. They are *making fun of* Carla's new hairdo.
   2. Don't *make fun of* Luis' English. He is doing the best he can.
9. to come true: (to prove to be true or correct)
   1. What the newspaper said about the weather for today has certainly *come true.*
   2. Everything the economists predicted about the cost of living has *come true.*
10. as a matter of fact: (in fact, really)
    1. Hans thinks he knows English well but, *as a matter of fact*, he speaks very poorly.

2. *As a matter of fact,* I prefer the Barbados Islands to Florida.

11. to have one's way – to get one's own way: (to do or obtain what one wishes, especially against opposition or contrary advice)

1. If Henry doesn't *have his own way,* he gets very angry.
2. My wife always wants *to have her own way,* but this time, for a change, she is going to do what I say.

12. to look forward to: (to expect, anticipate, usually pleasurably)

1. We are *looking forward to* my uncle's visit with great pleasure.
2. He says that he has nothing *to look forward to* except the same monotonous work every day.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. If I *look after* someone, I
   (a) follow him everywhere.
   (b) take care of him.
   (c) call on him.

2. If I *feel like doing* something, I
   (a) have the desire to do it.
   (b) feel well.
   (c) feel foolish.

3. If you *hear from* someone, you
   (a) hear of him.
   (b) receive some communication from him.
   (c) listen to him.



4. If you *make fun of* someone, you
   (a) laugh at or ridicule him.
   (b) call him down.
   (c) tell him a joke.

5. If someone *has his own way,* he
   (a) loses his way.
   (b) is on the way.
   (c) gets what he wishes.

6. If I *look forward to* something, I
   (a) look it over.
   (b) anticipate it.
   (c) look it up.

7. If I *eat in* every night, I
   (a) eat a lot.
   (b) eat in a restaurant.
   (c) eat at home.

8. If a prediction *comes true,* it
   (a) turns out to be correct.
   (b) is false.
   (c) turns out to be foolish.

9. If I *play jokes on* someone, I
   (a) laugh and joke with him.
   (b) call him up.
   (c) make him the victim of my jokes.

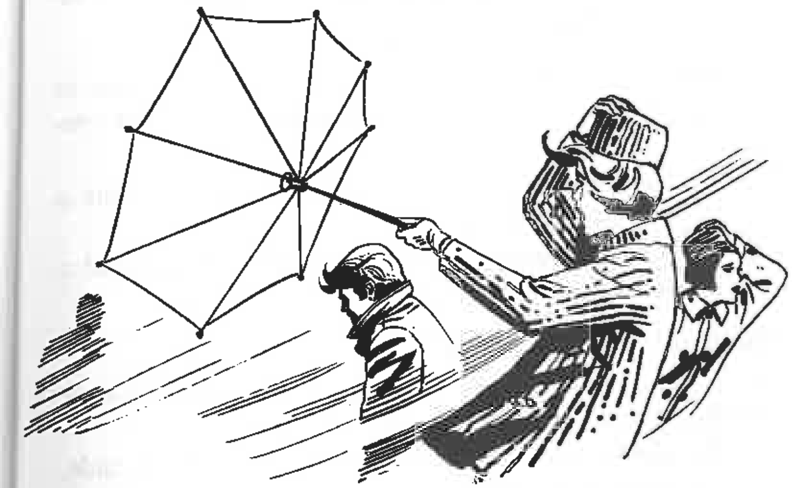
10. If I tell you something *once and for all,* I tell it to you
    (a) several times.
    (b) in a final and definite manner.
    (c) with the hope of pleasing you.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Have you ever *heard of* the famous English novelist Charles Dickens?
2. What famous English poets have you *heard of*?

3. What famous English dramatists have you *heard of*?
4. How long has it been since you *heard from* home?
5. When was the last time you *heard from* your friend in your country?
6. Do you like *to play tricks* on other people?
7. How do you like it when other people *play tricks on* you?
8. Do you *eat out* every night or do you generally have dinner at home?
9. What are some advantages of *eating out*?
10. What are some advantages of *eating in*?
11. Do you sometimes *make fun of* other people or of other people's things?
12. Do you like it or dislike it when other people *make fun of* you?
13. Why don't you *feel like* studying tonight?
14. What do you *feel like* doing?
15. Why do some children always have *to have their own way*?
16. Do you believe in *giving children their own way*?
17. When you were a child, did you always *have your own way*?
18. What event in the near future are you *looking forward to* with great pleasure?

# Lesson 16



1. inside out – upside down: (*Inside out* means in a reverse position, with the inner side turned toward the outside; *upside down* means in a reverse position with the upper side turned toward the lower side.)
   1. The wind blew Mary's umbrella *inside out* and ruined it.
   2. For some reason John had put his sweater on *inside out*.
   3. After the accident both cars lay in the street *upside down*.

2. to fill out: (to complete – said of blanks, forms, etc.) (S)
   1. Every prospective employee must *fill out* an application blank, giving his name, address, previous position, etc.
   2. When she applied for her passport, Grace had *to fill out* a half dozen different forms and had some difficulty in *filling* them *out.*

3. to take advantage of: (to use an opportunity, also to impose upon or to profit at the expense of another person)
   1. I *took advantage of* the special sale and bought a half dozen new shirts.
   2. He *took advantage of* their hospitality and stayed a whole month without paying them anything.

4. no matter: (regardless of)
   1. *No matter* how much money he spends on his clothes, he never looks well dressed.
   2. *No matter* where that escaped convict tries to hide, the police will find him.

5. to take up: (to study, begin a course leading to a career) (S)
   1. William wants *to take up* medicine when he goes to college.
   2. What is your brother *taking up* at Columbia University?
   3. If you want to study dentistry, why don't you *take it up*?

6. to take something up with: (to consult – generally with someone higher in position or authority)
   1. I cannot explain the withholding tax to you. This is *something* which you will have *to take up with* an accountant.



   2. If we want to have a student dance in the school, we will have *to take it up* first *with* the principal.

7. to take after: (to resemble a parent or close relative)
   1. With her light hair and blue eyes Mary seems *to take after* her mother, but in her character she is more like her father.
   2. Which of your parents do you *take after*?

8. in the long run: (finally, after a long period of time)
   1. *In the long run,* this synthetic weave will wear better than the woolen one.
   2. You will find that *in the long run,* your roommate will turn out to be your best friend.

9. out of: (Note the following useful and rather special expressions with *out of.*)
   1. John and I have been *out of touch* for years. In fact, we haven't seen each other since high school.
   2. This telephone is *out of order.* Use the other.
   3. She was *out of town* for a few days.
   4. That firm has gone *out of business.*
   5. The plane soared slowly *out of sight.*
   6. The poor fellow went *out of his mind* and was put in a sanatorium.
   7. This piano is *out of tune.*
   8. I'm afraid that we are *out of gas.*
   9. He has been *out of work* for a long time.

10. to run out of: (to exhaust the supply of)
   1. The troops *ran out of* ammunition and had to withdraw.
   2. We *ran out of* gas right in the middle of the main street and blocked traffic.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. The man finally went *insane*. (out of____________)
2. He *exhausted his supply* of money and had to return home. (run____________)
3. He had one glove on *with the inside turned toward the outside*. (inside..................)
4. The plates were placed on the table *with the upper side turned toward the bottom*. (upside..................)
5. Both brothers have been *without work* for months. (out of____________)
6. *Regardless of* how often I correct him, he always makes the same mistake. (no____________)
7. What course do you plan to *undertake* in college? (take____________)
8. Our personnel office asked me to *complete* one of their application forms. (fill____________)
9. John likes to travel and, in this, he *resembles* his Uncle Bill. (take____________)
10. Divorce is a matter which you must *consult a lawyer about*. (take____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. With her great interest in sports whom does Joyce *take after*?
2. Which one of your parents do you *take after*?
3. Where were your friends going when they *ran out of* gas?
4. Why did that gambler *run out of money* so soon on his trip to Mexico?
5. What course is your friend *taking up* in college?
6. Why don't John's parents want him *to take up* medicine?



7. What is the difference between *filling something* and *filling something out*?
8. What different forms did you have *to fill out* when you first came to this school?
9. Has the wind ever blown your umbrella *inside out*?
10. Why did the thieves turn everything in the room *upside down*?
11. Why does that salesman go *out of town* so often?
12. In what way did Dorothy *take advantage of* her friend's generosity?
13. Why is that firm going *out of business*?
14. For how long has your friend been *out of work*?
15. Give good examples of the following idioms in sentences: *to take place, to take part in, to take care of, to take into account, to take turns, to take hold of, to take pity on, to take up, to take something up with, to take after.*

# Lesson 17

1. every so often – every now and then: (occasionally)
    1. *Every so often* he and I go to a ball game together.
    2. *Every now and then* we go to Buffalo to visit my relatives there.

2. to get along with: (to live or work harmoniously with)
    1. The proprietor of that men's store *gets along with* well all his employees.
    2. Mr. and Mrs. Jones do not *get along with* each other well. They quarrel constantly.

3. hard of hearing: (partially deaf)
   1. You will have to speak a little louder. Mr. Evans is *hard of hearing*.
   2. Please don't shout. I'm not *hard of hearing*.

4. to let go of: (to release)
   1. As soon as the policeman *let go of* him, the boy ran away.
   2. Don't *let go of* the rope until I tell you.

5. to keep in mind – to bear in mind: (not to forget, remember) (S)
   1. Please *keep in mind* that you promised to call your patient at two o'clock.
   2. "You should *bear in mind* that he is not as strong as he used to be." "O.K., I'll *keep* it *in mind*."

6. to run over: (to strike or pass over with a moving vehicle)
   1. Why doesn't he drive more carefully? He almost *ran over* that child.
   2. The man was *run over* by a train and killed.

7. to keep an eye on: (to watch, guard)
   1. *Keep an eye on* my suitcase while I buy my ticket.
   2. Our superintendent is going *to keep an eye on* our apartment while we are away.

8. to go off: (a. to explode; b. to leave suddenly)
   a. 1. The firecracker *went off* with a bang.
   2. The gun *went off* while he was cleaning it, and the bullet almost struck his wife.
   
   b. John *went off* without saying good-bye to anyone.



9. to grow out of: (to outgrow, become too large and mature for)
   1. He has a habit of shaking his head, but the doctor thinks that he will *grow out of* it.
   2. As a child she used to stutter, but she *grew out of* it.

10. to make the best of: (to accept a bad situation cheerfully and to do the best that one can under the circumstances)
    1. If we cannot find a larger apartment, we will continue living here and simply *make the best of* it.
    2. They have had bad luck, but they always *make the best of* everything.

11. to cut off: (to remove by cutting the ends – also to terminate abruptly) (S)
    1. The rope was two feet longer than we needed, so we *cut off* the extra length.
    2. In the middle of our telephone conversation we were suddenly *cut off*.
    3. Because of the storm the electricity was *cut off* for several hours.

12. to cut out: (a. to remove by cutting; b. to stop doing something) (S)
    a. The child likes to *cut out* pictures from the newspaper.
    
    b. 1. I wish I could *cut out* smoking.
    2. He kept bothering her and finally she told him to *cut it out*.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.
   1. If I *keep an eye on* something, I (like it, see it, watch it, put it away).

2. If a bomb *goes off*, it (fails, explodes, strikes).
3. A person can be *run over* by (a dog, a doctor, a moving vehicle, bomb).
4. *To cut out* something, we generally use a (rope, pencil, box, knife).
5. We often say "We have been *cut off*" when we are (struck by a car, using the telephone, using scissors).
6. Someone who is *hard of hearing* is (difficult to hear, difficult to understand, lazy, deaf).
7. *Every now and then* means (once in a while, often, never, seldom).
8. *To let go* of something is to (lose it, bring it, need it, release it).
9. *To bear in mind* is to (memorize, remember, forget, be lazy).
10. If I *get along with* someone, I (know him well, dislike him, live or work harmoniously with him).

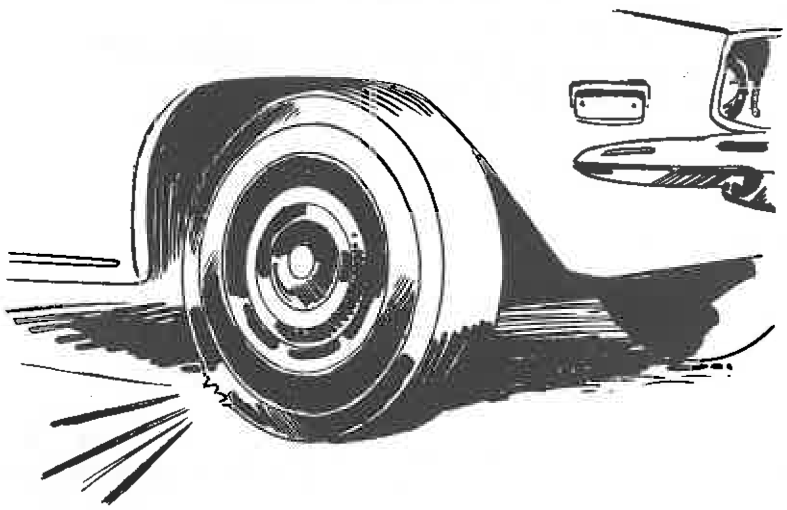
B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why was the electricity in your city *cut off* for several hours one day last summer?
2. What do you do if, while telephoning, you are *cut off*?
3. Is it easy or difficult for a person *to cut out* smoking?
4. If a person says to you "*Cut it out!*", what does he mean?
5. As a child did you like *to cut out* pictures from the newspapers or magazines?
6. Why did you ask your friend *to keep an eye on* your suitcase while you went to buy your ticket?
7. Do you *get along well* with the other students in your class?
8. Are there certain persons with whom you cannot *get along*? What are they like?
9. Are you the type of person with whom it is easy or difficult *to get along*?
10. For how long has your grandfather been *hard of hearing*?



11. Do you often visit your friends or only *every now and then*?
12. Why did the mother tell her child not *to let go of* her hand while they crossed the street?
13. Name one or more habits that you had as a child which you later *grew out of*?
14. How did the bus driver happen *to run over* that man — did his brakes fail or was he negligent?

# Lesson 18



1. to blow out: (to explode, go flat – said generally of tires)
   1. On our trip to Florida one of our tires *blew out.*
   2. If a tire *blows out* while one is driving at high speed, it can be very dangerous.
2. to shut off: (to stop something which runs, such as water, gas, electrical current, etc. – similar to *turn off)* (S)
   1. Please *shut off* that faucet. If you don't *shut it off,* you'll waste water.
   2. After the storm the electricity was *shut off* for several hours.





3. to shut up: (to close – also to be quiet, stop talking) (S)
   1. They have *shut up* their town house and have gone to the country for the summer.
   2. She told him *to shut up* and not to say anything more about it.
4. to have got: (to have, to possess) (S)

   Note: Strict grammarians object to this use of *got* with the verb *have* but this construction is used by almost everyone who speaks English today.
   1. William *has got* a bad cold.
   2. Who's *got* my fountain pen?
   3. *Have* you *got* a match?
   4. How much money *have* you *got* with you?
5. to have got to do something: (to have to do something, must) See note above on use of *got* with *have.*
   1. *I've got to be back* by two o'clock.
   2. He *has got to go* to Chicago tonight.
   3. *We've got to see* him today.
6. to keep up with: (to maintain the same speed as)
   1. My secretary works so fast that no one in the office can *keep up with* her.
   2. You'll have to walk more slowly. I can't *keep up with* you.
7. to tell time: (to be able to know the hour by looking at a watch or clock)
   1. That three-year-old is too young to be able to *tell time.*
   2. At the age of four William was able *to tell time.*
8. to turn down: (to reduce in speed or volume – also to reject) (S)
   1. Please *turn down* the radio. It is too loud.

2. His application for a position with that company was *turned down.*
3. William tried to join the Navy but was *turned down* because of his poor eyesight.

9. to be becoming: (to suit, favor in appearance)
   1. That pearl necklace *is very becoming* to you.
   2. That type of dress *is* not at all *becoming* to Maude. It makes her look too tall and thin.

10. to break in: (to adjust through usage something which is new and stiff; also to train a new employee) (S)
    1. These new shoes are hurting me. I'll be glad when they are *broken in.*
    2. It is better *to break in* a new car slowly by driving at moderate speeds for the first 500 miles.
    3. After our new treasurer *is broken in,* he will be very valuable to us.

11. to break into: (to enter by force)
    1. Thieves *broke into* our apartment last night.
    2. They had no trouble *breaking into* the bank, but when they came out, the police were waiting for them.

12. above all: (mainly, especially)
    1. *Above all,* don't mention this to Henry.
    2. He does well in all his subjects but, *above all,* in mathematics.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. If I *have got to leave* early, I
   (a) want to leave early.



   (b) should leave early.
   (c) must leave early.

2. If someone tells you to *shut up,* he wants you to
   (a) close the door.
   (b) turn off the radio.
   (c) stop talking.

3. If I cannot *keep up with* you, I cannot
   (a) maintain the same speed as you.
   (b) turn off the radio.
   (c) keep my promise.

4. If someone *breaks into* your home, he
   (a) visits you.
   (b) leaves a message for you.
   (c) enters by force.

5. If a dress or suit *is becoming to you,* it
   (a) is a little large for you.
   (b) will soon be sent to you.
   (c) looks well on you.

6. If someone is *turned down,* he is
   (a) accepted.
   (b) rejected.
   (c) called down.

7. When you *shut something off,* you
   (a) turn it off.
   (b) turn it down.
   (c) put it away.

8. We *break in* only those things which are
   (a) old and worn.
   (b) worn out.
   (c) new and stiff.

9. *Have you got a cigarette* means:
   - (a) did you buy cigarettes.
   - (b) did you obtain a cigarette.
   - (c) do you have a cigarette to give me.

10. *To tell time* is to
    - (a) count the days.
    - (b) look at a clock and know what time it is.
    - (c) look at your watch.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How old were you when you learned *to tell time*?
2. At what age do children generally learn *to tell time*?
3. When you tell someone *to shut up*, are you using a polite or a rather impolite form?
4. *Have you got* much homework to do tonight?
5. Where *have you got to go* today after the lesson?
6. Why *has that housewife got to go* to the supermarket tomorrow?
7. Which student in your class *has got* the largest speaking vocabulary?
8. *Has* the same student *got* the largest reading vocabulary?
9. Why was George *turned down* when he tried to join the Army?
10. Do you think the sweater which Nora is wearing *is becoming* or not?
11. Does your friend always or seldom wear clothes which *are becoming* to her?
12. What may happen if you are driving a car at high speed and a tire *blows out*?
13. What is the difference between a puncture and a *blowout*?
14. Why is it difficult for a shorter person *to keep up with* John when they are both walking together?
15. Have thieves ever *broken into* your home or apartment?



# Lesson 19

1. to do without: (to get along without, to forego)
   1. With prices so high I will have *to do without* a new suit this year.
   2. In his business he cannot *do without* a car.

2. to watch out for: (to look out for, guard against)
   1. There was a sign near the road saying, "*Watch Out For* Falling Rocks!"
   2. One thief went inside while the other waited outside and *watched out for* the police.

3. to be bound to: (be certain to, sure to)
   1. We *are bound to* be late if you don't hurry.
   2. With business improving they *are bound to* make money this year.

4. to be bound for somewhere: (to be going in a certain direction)
   1. The ship *is bound for* Buenos Aires.
   2. Where *are you bound for* after class?

5. to take someone for: (to mistake a person for someone else)
   1. With his strong, muscular body, I *took him for* an athlete.
   2. What do you *take me for* – a fool?

6. to try out: (to test, use during a trial period) (S)
   1. They let me *try out* the sewing machine for several days before buying it.

2. The government is *trying out* various new forms of jet airplanes.
3. Before I purchase that car, I'd like *to try* it *out*.

7. to tear down: (to demolish) (S)

1. They *tore down* the old building and built a new one.
2. In order to build the highway, the contractors had *to tear down* a whole block of buildings.
3. New York is constantly changing. They are always *tearing* something else *down*.

8. to tear up: (to tear completely into small pieces, to cancel) (S)

1. He *tore up* the letter and threw it into the wastepaper basket.
2. He told the lawyer *to tear up* the old contract and to prepare a new one.
3. When Bob received an angry note from his boss, *he tore* it *up*.

9. to cut up – to break up – to chop up – to chew up, etc.

(These forms are similar to *tear up*, explained above. They all suggest an action of cutting, breaking, or choping something completely into many small pieces.) (S)

1. The butcher *cut up* the meat and then weighed it.
2. He *broke up* the candy and gave each child a piece.
3. He *chopped up* the wood into small pieces of about six inches long.
4. The dog *chewed up* the leg of one of our tables.

10. to burn up – to eat up – to clean up – to dress up – to tie up, etc.

(These forms are also similar to *tear up*, described above. The particle *up* placed after a verb generally suggests an action which is *complete*. Thus, *to burn up* is to burn something completely. *To eat up* something is to eat all of it. *To clean up* is to clean completely and thoroughly—etc.) (S)



1. All his clothes were *burned up* in the fire.
2. The mother told the child *to eat up* her spinach and *to drink up* her milk.
3. Tell the maid *to clean up* this table.
4. Where is Elsie going all *dressed up*?
5. The thieves *tied up* the watchman.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

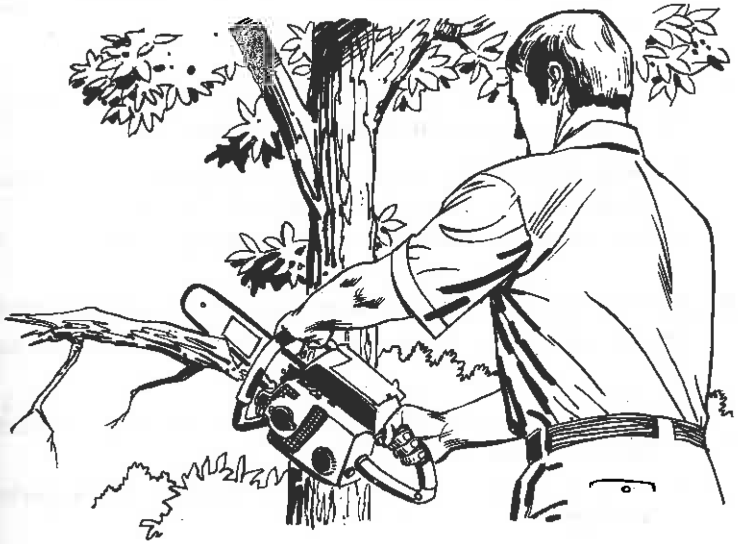
1. With taxes so high I will have to *get along without* a new car this year. (do__________)
2. When you cross the street, be careful and *be on the alert* for the bus. (watch__________)
3. John is *certain to be* a success in that business. (bound__________)
4. I *made a mistake and thought that he was* a Frenchman. (take__________)
5. They will *test* several machines and select the best one. (try__________)
6. He *tore the telegram into small pieces* and threw it away. (tear__________)
7. They *are demolishing* many old buildings in order to build new ones. (tear__________)
8. You can *break that stone into small pieces* with your hand. (break__________)
9. Where can I *burn these old newspapers completely*? (burn__________)
10. Marie is all *dressed completely* in her best clothes. She must be going to a party. (dress__________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Where are you *bound for* after class?

2. Where is that ship which is just leaving the port *bound for*?
3. Why do you say that Edith is *bound to get* the highest mark in the class?
4. Why is that lazy student *bound to fail* the examination?
5. Why did you *take* that stranger for a Frenchman?
6. Why does everyone always *take Olga for* an Italian?
7. Why are they *tearing down* that building across the street?
8. What is the difference between *to tear down* something and *to tear up* something?
9. What is the difference between *to tear something* and *to tear something up*?
10. What is the difference between the following: *to burn* something, *to burn down* something, and *to burn up* something?
11. If someone tells you *to watch out for* something, what should you do?
12. What is the difference between being *dressed* and being *dressed up*?
13. If you place the particle *up* after a verb, what meaning does this generally give to the verb?
14. What do we mean when we say that the street is all *torn up*?

# Lesson 20



1. to cut off — tear off — break off — bite off — chew off, etc.

(Note: These expressions are not particularly idiomatic; they are used in a literal sense with the meaning of *to remove a piece or a section of something* by cutting, tearing, breaking, etc. Foreign students, however, often find these expressions difficult to use.) (S)

1. They are *cutting off* the lower branches of the tree. A power saw is *cutting* them *off*.
2. He *tore off* a piece of the paper and gave it to me.
3. He *broke off* a small piece of candy and gave it to the child.
4. The animal *bit off* the end of the man's finger.

2. to tell two things or two persons apart – to tell one from the other: (to distinguish between)
   1. The two brothers look so much alike that no one can *tell them apart.*
   2. The two coins looked so much alike that it was difficult *to tell one from the other.*

3. all the same: (regardless of what has been said; also, to be equal, the same, to make no difference)
   1. Your arguments are very convincing but, *all the same,* I don't think that Russia will attack China.
   2. It's *all the same* to me whether we go or stay.

4. to take charge of: (to assume direction or responsibility for; see also *to be in charge of, to have charge of,* Lesson 9)
   1. John is going *to take charge of* all the arrangements for the dance.
   2. Who is going *to take charge of* getting an orchestra for us?

5. to go around: (be sufficient for everyone)
   1. If there aren't enough chairs *to go around,* I can bring some from the other room.
   2. So many people came that there were not enough sandwiches *to go around.*

6. to be in the way: (blocking or obstructing, thus causing inconvenience)
   1. He tried to help us but *was* simply *in the way.*
   2. Is this chair *in your way?*

7. in vain: (useless, without result)
   1. All the doctor's efforts were *in vain* and the man soon died.
   2. We tried *in vain* to reach him.



8. to put up: (to construct, erect) (S)
   1. The builders are tearing down that old office building in order *to put up* a new one.
   2. They are *putting up* several new buildings in that block.
   3. Some apartments are rented even before the builders *put them up.*

9. to put up with: (to tolerate)
   1. I refuse *to put up with* his actions any longer.
   2. How do you *put up with* that noise all day long?

10. to put on weight: (to gain weight, become heavier)
    1. John has *put on a lot of weight* recently.
    2. I *put on at least ten pounds* during my vacation. Three big meals a day helped *to put it on.*

11. day in, day out – day after day: (daily, continuously)
    1. *Day in and day out* he gave the same excuse for his laziness.
    2. *Day in, day out* for a period of six months, he worked on his new novel.

12. to show off: (to display to excess one's ability or possessions) (S)
    1. John swims well but I don't like the way he always *shows off* in front of everyone.
    2. She wants to go out simply *to show off* her new clothes.
    3. Nobody likes him because he is such a *show-off.*
    4. Jonas has a very expensive wristwatch and he misses no opportunity to *show* it *off.*

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized word or words.
   1. If someone is *in my way,* he is (helping me, going in my direction, blocking my path).

2. If there is enough of something *to go around*, this means that there is enough (for only a few, for everyone, for those who arrive early).
3. If a building is being *put up*, it is being (torn down, improved, erected).
4. If someone *displays his ability or his possessions ostentatiously*, we say that he is (coming to, eating out, getting rich, showing off).
5. If someone is *putting on weight*, he is (working hard, weighing something, going on vacation, getting heavier).
6. If I do something *in vain*, I do it (without interest, without success, hurriedly).
7. If I can't *put up with something*, I can't (stand it, enjoy it, admire it, describe it).
8. If I *remove a part of something by tearing it*, I (tear it down, tear it up, tear it off).
9. If I cannot *tell you from your brother*, I cannot (speak to you alone, tell you any secrets, distinguish between you).
10. If someone does something *day in and day out*, he does it (occasionally, day after day, when the weather is good).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why is it difficult *to tell John and his brother apart*?
2. In the case of twin brothers or twin sisters, is it always difficult *to tell one twin from the other*?
3. Is it *all the same to* you if we postpone our lesson until tomorrow rather than have it today?
4. What is the difference between: the man *cut* his finger and the man *cut off* his finger?
5. What is the difference between: the animal *bit* the man's hand and the animal *bit off* the man's hand?
6. What is the difference between: he *tore up* a sheet of paper and he *tore off* a sheet of paper?
7. Why did the movers tell the curious children *to get out of the way*?



8. Why did the teacher ask you whether that chair *was in your way*?
9. Are they *putting up* many or a few new buildings in your town?
10. Which is easier to do: *to tear down* an old building or *to put up* a new one?
11. How does a *show-off* act?
12. Do you like or dislike people who *show off*?
13. Why did the teacher say that she would not *put up* with John's absences any longer?
14. Why does Mr. Smith *put up* with so much from his employer who treats him very badly?
15. Did you *put on any weight* during your vacation or did you lose weight?
16. Give good examples of these expressions in sentences: *to put on, to put away, to put off, to put out, to put up, to put on weight.*

# Lesson 21

1. to hold still: (to remain quiet – without moving) (S)
   1. How can I take your picture if you don't *hold still*?
   2. *Hold still* a moment while I fix your tie.
   3. If you don't *hold* that camera *still*, you'll get a blurred picture.

2. to know by sight: (to recognize as a result of having seen someone previously) (S)
   1. I have never met our new neighbors; I simply *know* them *by sight*.
   2. Although I have never spoken with either of our two new employees, I *know* them both *by sight*.

3. something the matter – nothing the matter: (something wrong – nothing wrong)
   1. Is there *something the matter* with Rita? She looks pale.
   2. The mechanic says that there is *nothing the matter* with the carburetor in my car.

4. to bring up: (to rear, raise from childhood; also, to present for attention or consideration) (S)
   1. His mother died when he was young, and his grandmother *brought* him *up*.
   2. She decided against *bringing* the matter *up* at the club meeting.

5. to get lost: (to lose one's direction, become lost)
   1. While driving to Boston, we *got lost* and drove many miles out of our way.
   2. John *got lost* in the woods and did not get home until after midnight.

6. to hold up: (a. to rob at the point of a gun; b. to delay) (S)
   a. 1. They *held up* the owner and robbed him of everything.
      2. That bank has been *held up* three times.
      3. Four men took part in the *holdup*.
      4. The thief pointed a gun at Charles and *held* him *up*.
   b. 1. Shipment of the merchandise was *held up* because of the railroad strike.
      2. Traffic on the bridge was *held up* for several hours because of the accident.

7. to run away: (to leave without notice or permission)
   1. He *ran away* from home when he was a child, and never returned.



   2. They *ran away* and got married in Boston.
   3. The horse became frightened and *ran away*.

8. to run errands: (to act as an errand-boy, go to a store to buy things for someone else)
   1. When we need our son *to run an errand*, he is never here.
   2. Rufus *runs errands* for all the neighbors.

9. to see someone off: (to go to a train, ship, or plane in order to say good-bye to someone)
   1. We are going to the pier *to see a friend off*. He is sailing for Europe.
   2. No one went to the station *to see him off*.

10. to set fire to – to set on fire: (to cause to burn)
    1. No one knows who *set fire to* the building.
    2. Be careful with that match. You will *set* those curtains *on fire*.

## Exercises

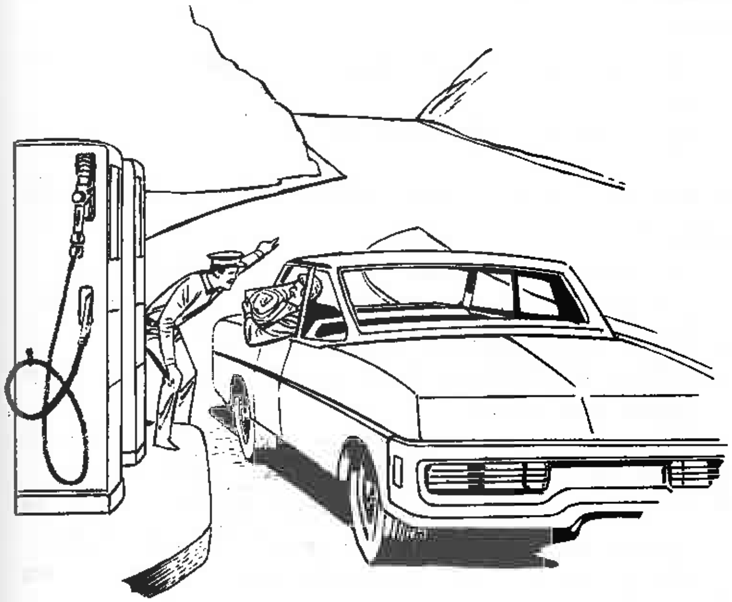
A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.
   1. Delivery may be *delayed* several weeks because of the flood. (hold____________)
   2. John does not like to *go to the store to buy things* for his mother. (run____________)
   3. He *left home without permission* when he was eight years old and never returned. (run____________)
   4. The same storekeeper has been *robbed at the point of a gun* three times. (hold____________)
   5. They *eloped* and got married in Philadelphia. (run____________)
   6. If you *lose your direction*, consult your map. (get____________)
   7. We went to the station to *say good-bye to John*. (see____________)

8. *Remain quiet* a moment while he takes our picture. (hold____________)
9. I have never met him but I *recognize him when I see him.* (know____________)
10. He is an American but he was *raised* in Europe. (bring____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Do you know your Councilman to speak to or just *by sight*?
2. Did you ever *run away* from home as a child?
3. Why do children sometimes *run away* from home?
4. Have you ever been *held up*?
5. Do many or few *holdups* take place in the city in which you live?
6. Why was traffic *held up* on Fifth Avenue for several hours yesterday?
7. Why was John *brought up* by his grandmother instead of by his mother?
8. How does it happen that Mary was born in the United States but *brought up* in England?
9. That lady looks very pale. Is there *something the matter* with her?
10. As a child, did you have *to run many errands* for your mother?
11. As a child, did you like *to run errands*?
12. Is it easy or difficult *to set fire to* things made of wood?
13. Is it easy or difficult *to set fire to* things made of metal?
14. Have you ever *gotten lost* in the woods or in a strange city? If so, when?
15. What should one do if one *gets lost* in a strange city?
16. Do you like or dislike to go to a railroad station or pier *to see someone off*?

# Lesson 22



1. to drive up to – to go up to – to walk up to – to run up to: (to approach)
   1. We finally *drove up to* a gas station and inquired about the correct route.
   2. She *went up to* him and shook his hand as though she had known him for years.
   3. The child *ran up to* me and began to cry.
2. to hand in: (to submit or deliver something which is due) (S)
   1. Every student has *to hand in* an original composition each week.
   2. All the salesmen *hand in* weekly reports.

3. Are you still working on your term paper, or did you *hand* it *in*?

3. to hold good: (to remain valid or in force, continue to be good)
   1. That promise I made to you last week still *holds good*.
   2. How long does this offer *hold good*?

4. to hold on: (to grasp, hold tightly to something: also, to pause, wait)
   1. He *held on* to my coat sleeve and refused to let go.
   2. It's pretty windy. You'd better *hold on* to your hat.
   3. *Hold on* a minute! I want to speak to you.
   4. (While telephoning) *Hold on* a minute while I get a pencil and paper.

5. to think up: (to invent, discover, find) (S)
   1. I wish I could *think up* a good excuse to give the teacher for my not having prepared my homework.
   2. Every day they *think up* some new trick to play on him.
   3. That was a clever idea. Who *thought* it *up*?

6. to be better off: (to be in a better condition or situation)
   1. You *will be much better off* working in that office than in a factory.
   2. If he is so sick, he *would be better off* in a hospital.

7. to be well-off: (to be rich, well-to-do)
   1. They own their own home, have two automobiles, and seem *to be* very *well-off*.
   2. His parents *were* once *well-off* but they lost all their money.

8. to take someone by surprise: (to surprise, come as unexpected)
   1. His offer *took me* completely *by surprise*.



   2. The President's announcement *took everyone by surprise*.

9. to keep in touch with: (to continue in communication with; see also *to get in touch with*, Lesson 9, No. 4)
   1. You can telephone me every few days, and in that way we can *keep in touch with* each other.
   2. He promised *to keep in touch with* us while he was abroad.

10. to be named after: (to be given at birth the same name as another)
    1. Helen *is named after* her aunt.
    2. My grandson was *named* Calvin, *after* a former President of the United States.

11. to put together: (to assemble) (S)
    1. We followed the directions but could not *put* the machine *together*.
    2. After he took the watch apart, he was not able *to put* it *together* again.

12. to take apart: (to separate the different parts of an object or mechanism) (S)
    1. It is much easier *to take* a clock *apart* than to put it together again.
    2. In order to fix it, the mechanic had *to take* the carburetor *apart*.
    3. I could never have *taken* it *apart*.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

   1. If I *go up to* someone, I
      (a) become angry at him.
      (b) approach him.
      (c) refuse to speak to him.

2. If an offer still *holds good,* it
   (a) remains in effect.
   (b) is cancelled.
   (c) has been accepted.

3. *To keep in touch with* someone is to
   (a) keep touching him.
   (b) keep him in sight.
   (c) continue in communication with him.

4. If a person is *well-off,* he is
   (a) in good health.
   (b) well-to-do.
   (c) happy.

5. If I *am named after* someone, I
   (a) have a similar character.
   (b) have been given the same name.
   (c) imitate him in everything.

6. If I *take something apart,* I
   (a) criticize it.
   (b) assemble it.
   (c) separate the different parts.

7. If I *put something together,* I
   (a) assemble it.
   (b) think it up.
   (c) put it away.

8. If I *hand in* a report, I
   (a) prepare a report.
   (b) submit a report.
   (c) put it away.

9. *To be better off* is to be
   (a) out of town.
   (b) out of work.
   (c) to be in a better condition than previously.

10. If I say, "*Hold on* a moment!" I mean
    (a) wait a moment.
    (b) sit down a moment.
    (c) call back later.



B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How many times a week do the students of your class *hand in* homework to the teacher?
2. Why does Mr. Smith want *to hand in* his resignation to that company?
3. Which one of her parents *is Mary named after*?
4. *Were you named after* anyone in your family?
5. Which is easier: *to take a watch apart* or *to put it together again*?
6. Why did the repairman have to *take the typewriter apart* in order to repair it?
7. Did the 1970 eclipse of the sun *take everyone by surprise* or did most people expect it?
8. Why did the President's death *take everyone by surprise*?
9. What did that man look like who *came up to* you on the street?
10. What is the difference between: *to run up to* someone and *to run over* someone?
11. Why *is* John *better off* in his present position than he was in his former one?
12. Why do you say that that patient *would be better off* in a hospital than at home?
13. If we say that someone *is well off,* do we mean that he is rich or poor?
14. If it is very windy, why does one sometimes have *to hold on* to his hat in the street?
15. When speaking with your friend by telephone, why did you tell her *to hold on* while you went to get a pencil?

# Lesson 23
## (General Review — Lessons 1-22)

A. In the blank spaces at the right, give a ONE-WORD synonym for the italicized word or words. Follow the example in the first sentence.

1. He *left out* the third question on his examination. omitted
2. Such a thing is absolutely *out of the question*. ______
3. We *talked over* the problem for a long time. ______
4. I did not *get through* work until almost eight o'clock. ______
5. He likes to *find fault with* the work of others. ______
6. I want to *look over* that correspondence before it goes out. ______
7. *All at once* John appeared in the doorway. ______
8. He has always *made good* in every job he has had. ______
9. He was living in France when the war *broke out*. ______
10. The enemy *gave in* without further resistance. ______
11. She *took pity on* him and gave him the money. ______
12. You must *take into account* the fact that he was ill. ______
13. Ida fainted but *came to* immediately. ______



14. He is planning *to take up* medicine in college. ______
15. Bella *takes after* her mother in many ways. ______
16. The poor fellow went *out of his mind*. ______
17. He is a little *hard of hearing*. ______
18. Don't *let go of* the rope until I tell you. ______
19. *Bear in mind* that we must get there before seven. ______
20. *Keep an eye on* my suitcase while I get my ticket. ______
21. I wish I could *cut out* smoking. ______
22. His application for a passport was *turned down*. ______
23. They will *try out* the machine tomorrow. ______
24. They *tore down* the old building and built a new one. ______
25. All his efforts were *in vain*. ______
26. They are *putting up* several new buildings there. ______
27. I refuse to *put up with* his actions any longer. ______
28. He seems to be *putting on* weight. ______
29. She was born in Texas but *brought up* in New England. ______
30. That bank has been *held up* several times. ______

B. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to call*. (Examples: *call up, call on, call for, call down, call off*, etc.)

1. Some friends *visited* us last night.

2. He *scolded* them for coming late to work every day.
3. I will *telephone* you at six o'clock.
4. We will *come to pick* you *up* at exactly seven o'clock.
5. The game was *canceled* because of rain.

C. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to take*. (Examples: *take part in, take off, take out, take place, take turns, take care of, take pity on, take into consideration, take for granted, take advantage of, take up, take up with, take after, take apart)*

1. The accident *occurred* on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 23rd Street.
2. John *removed* his hat and coat.
3. I *assumed without investigation* that he was an American.
4. You must *consider* the fact that he was ill at the time.
5. It was much easier to *disassemble* the machine than to put it together again.
6. He plans to *study* law when he goes to college.
7. The meeting will *occur* in Mr. Smith's office.
8. He *exploited* his friend's generosity.
9. You must *consult with Mr. Smith about this.*
10. Henry *resembles* his Uncle Bill in many ways.

D. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to make*. (Examples: *make believe, make up one's mind, make sure, make out, make good, make good time, make fun of, make the best of,* etc.)

1. How did you *succeed* in your last English examination?
2. He *pretended* that he was ill.
3. Everyone *laughed and joked about* Polly's new hat.



4. Our apartment is small but, since we cannot find anything better, we will have *to do the best that we can under these circumstances.*
5. This letter is so badly written that I cannot *understand* what he means.
6. I am sure that John will *succeed* in his new position.
7. In driving to Washington, we *traveled at very good speed.*
8. *Be certain* to get there on time.

E. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to put*. (Examples: *put off, put out, put up, put away, put up with, put together, put on, put on weight,* etc.)

1. He *extinguished* his cigarette in the ash tray.
2. Harvey seems to be *gaining* weight.
3. They are *erecting* several new buildings in that block.
4. She says she will not *tolerate* his carelessness any longer.
5. The meeting was *postponed* until next week.
6. It is easy to take a watch apart but it is difficult *to assemble* it again.

F. Give sentences with the following idioms.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| to get on | to get to a place | to get used to |
| to get off | to get sick, tired, wet, hungry, etc. | to get rid of |
| to get along | | to get through |
| to get back | to get in touch with | to get along with |

G. Give sentences with these idioms.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| at once | for good | now and then |
| at first | at times | off and on |
| at last | all of a sudden | all at once |
| as usual | once in a while | in the long run |
| so far | quite a few | every so often |

# Lesson 24

*(Section III — Advanced)*

1. to give someone a ring: (to telephone)
   1. I'll *give you a ring* as soon as I get there.
   2. *Give me a ring* sometime next week and we'll arrange to have dinner together.
2. to drop someone a line: (to write briefly to someone) (S)
   1. As soon as I get to Florida, I'll *drop you a line.*
   2. If you have time, *drop me a line* now and then while you are abroad.
   3. I must drop *a line to my mother.*
3. to come across: (to meet or find unexpectedly)
   1. While cleaning the attic yesterday, I *came across* an old photograph of my mother.





   2. I *came across* several interesting facts about Mexico in that book.
4. to stand for: (to represent; also, to tolerate)
   1. In this secret code each number *stands for* a letter of the alphabet.
   2. Each stripe in the American flag *stands for* one of the original thirteen colonies: each star *stands for* one of the fifty states.
   3. She refuses *to stand for* his impoliteness any longer.
   4. I don't have *to stand for* such rude behavior.
5. to stand a chance: (to have the possibility)
   1. The New York team *stands a chance* of winning the World Series this year.
   2. Not having had any previous experience, John doesn't *stand a chance* of getting that job.
6. to make faces: (to grimace, assume a facial expression of jest or scorn)
   1. The two quarreling children sat *making faces* at each other.
   2. Stop *making faces* at me.
   3. Instead of being pleased, he *made a face* when I told him the news about my raise.
7. to take pains: (to work carefully and conscientiously)
   1. She *took* great *pains* making the garment because it was to be her wedding dress.
   2. That valued employee *takes pains* with everything that he does.
8. to look up to: (to admire, respect highly)
   1. Our director is a man whom everyone *looks up to.*
   2. We must all *look up to* our great statesmen of the past.

9. to look down upon: (to scorn, despise)
   1. After Barnes became Governor, those who had called him names and *looked down upon* him as a cheap politician regretted their former attitude.
   2. Why should Alma *look down upon* him just because his family is poor?

10. to take off: (to leave the ground, said of airplanes)
    1. The plane *took off* at exactly two o'clock.
    2. The accident occurred while the plane was *taking off.*

11. to take time off: (to have free time, to arrange to be free from work; see also *to have time off*, Lesson 6, No. 9)
    1. John says that he wants *to take next Tuesday off.*
    2. He *took two days off* last week. What would we do in this office if everyone *took time off* as often as he does?

12. to keep good time: (to run accurately, said of watches and clocks)
    1. Although it is a cheap one, this watch *keeps very good time.*
    2. This clock *keeps perfect time.*

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. *To come across* someone is to (argue with him, meet him unexpectedly, call him up).
2. *To give someone a ring* is to (marry him, call him up, call him down, admire him).
3. If I say that I will not *stand for* something, I mean that I will not (pay for it, look it over, tolerate it).
4. *To drop someone a line* is to (throw him a rope, send him a telegram, write him a letter).
5. If I *take pains* with something, I (hurt myself, enjoy doing it, do it very carefully).
6. *To look up to* someone is to (be shorter than he, respect him highly, call him down).



7. When a plane *takes off*, it (arrives, explodes, leaves the ground).
8. If I *take Tuesday off*, I (don't go to work on Tuesday, work hard on Tuesday, arrive late on Tuesday).
9. If a watch *keeps good time*, it (runs fast, needs winding, often stops, runs accurately).
10. *To look down upon* someone is to (be taller than he, overlook him, treat him with scorn).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why doesn't Miguel *stand a chance* of passing his English examination?
2. Why doesn't Frank *stand a chance* of winning the tennis match?
3. In the American flag, what does each one of the stripes *stand for?*
4. What does each of the stars *stand for?*
5. What do the letters Ph.D. after Mr. Smith's name *stand for?*
6. Whom did you *come across* on Broadway recently?
7. What slight difference in meaning is there between *to meet someone* and *to come across someone?*
8. Why did everyone *look up to* Mr. Jones after his return from the war?
9. Why is it wrong *to look down* on those who are less fortunate than ourselves?
10. Why does that bright student *look down upon* the other students in his class?
11. If I *take pains* in doing something, do I do it carefully or carelessly?
12. Why does that invalid *take off* so much time from his work?
13. Why does Gertrude want *to take off* the month of July?
14. Does your watch *keep good time* or does it sometimes run fast or run slow?
15. Did the accident occur while the plane was landing or while it was *taking off?*

# Lesson 25

1. to make over: (to alter and make like new, said particularly of clothes) (S)
   1. I want to have this old coat *made over.*
   2. She *makes over* all her old clothes.
   3. After Jennie outgrows that dress, Mother will *make* it *over* for our younger sister.
2. to give birth to: (to bear, bring forth children)
   1. Jane's mother has just *given birth to* twins.
   2. Yesterday our daughter-in-law *gave birth* to a six-pound baby boy.
3. to taste of: (to have the same flavor as)
   1. This cake *tastes of* onions.
   2. If you don't cover that dish, everything in the refrigerator will *taste of* cabbage.
4. to get on one's nerves: (to make one nervous)
   1. I wish they would turn off that radio. It's *getting on my nerves.*
   2. She talks so much that she *gets on my nerves.*
5. to put down: (to suppress, quell) (S)
   1. The troops easily *put down* the rebellion.
   2. They had to call the police in order *to put down* the riot.
   3. There was a threatening demonstration in the park, but the police *put* it *down.*
6. to go in for: (to have as an interest or hobby, to dedicate oneself to)
   1. John *goes in for* tennis while his wife *goes in for* painting and sculpture.
   2. What sports do you *go in for*?



7. to stay up: (to remain up, not to go to bed)
   1. I want *to stay up* tonight and watch the late show.
   2. He *stays up* every night until after one o'clock preparing his homework.
8. to stay in – to stay out: (*To stay in* is to remain at home, not to go out. *To stay out* means to be out of the house, not to be at home.)
   1. We *stay in* almost every night and watch the television.
   2. He never *stays in* a single night. He goes out every night.
   3. John *stays out* every night until after midnight.
   4. I promised my mother that I would not *stay out* late tonight.
9. to bring someone to: (to revive; see also *to come to,* Lesson 14, No. 11)
   1. Colette fainted, but the nurse gave her something which *brought her to.*
   2. This medicine will surely *bring him to.*
10. to take over: (to assume direction or control of) (S)
    1. After the first of the month William will *take over* Mr. Smith's duties.
    2. Helen worked on the report for several days and then John *took over.*
    3. When the publisher of that magazine retires, his son will *take* it *over.*
11. to show up: (to appear)
    1. He promised to come on Tuesday but he never *showed up.*
    2. Not one student *showed up* for the scheduled meeting.
12. to clean out – to clean off.

    (Note: These forms are not idiomatic, but the student should note how the addition of *out, off, up,* etc., changes

slightly or makes the meaning of the verb more exact. Such usages are very common in English. See *to clean up,* Lesson 19, No. 10. Also compare: *to sweep out, to sweep off, to sweep up; to brush out, to brush off, to brush up, to wash out, to wash off, to wash up,* etc.) (S)

1. I want you *to clean out* that closet *(to clear* that closet *out)* so that we can store these things here.
2. The waitress will *clean off* this table (*clear* this table *off)* in a moment.
3. The maid will *clean up* the room before they arrive.
4. *Sweep out* that room well.
5. Mary is *sweeping off* the porch now.
6. *Sweep up* those crumbs that are on the floor.
7. There's an ant on your sleeve. Let me *brush* it *off.*
8. After spraying my mouth with antiseptic, the dentist told me *to wash* it *out.*

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. The riots were quickly *suppressed* by the police. (put____________)
2. John *is very much interested in* sculpture as a hobby. (go____________)
3. The noise of that radio is *making me nervous.* (get____________)
4. The whiskey which we gave him *revived* him. (bring____________)
5. We waited for hours but he never *appeared.* (show____________)
6. The new Cabinet officer will *assume* many of the duties of the President. (take____________)
7. John *remains out of the house* every night until after midnight. (stay____________)

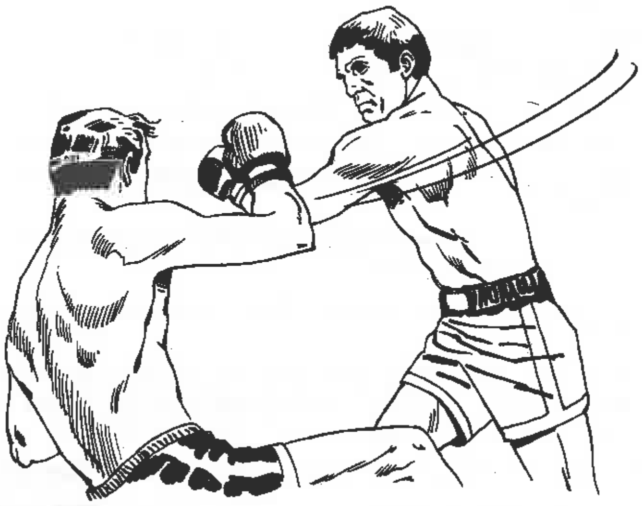


8. They *remain at home* every night and read. (stay____________)
9. We *did not go to bed* until twelve o'clock waiting for some word from John. (stay____________)
10. Everything in the icebox *has the flavor of* onions. (taste____________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answer of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why did you *stay up* so late last night?
2. Until what time do you usually *stay up* every night?
3. Which member of your family generally *stays up* the latest?
4. Do you *stay in* every night during the school week or do you sometimes go out?
5. Do you *stay in* on Sunday nights or do you always go out?
6. Why does that young man *stay out* so late every night?
7. Why did you promise your mother that you would not *stay out* late last night?
8. If someone has fainted, what is done *to bring him to*?
9. Who will *take over* the boss's duties when he goes on his vacation?
10. What is the difference in meaning between *to clean up something* and *to clean out something*?
11. What is the difference in meaning between these two sentences: "Please *clean out* this desk" and "Please *clean off* this desk"?
12. Which is more correct to say: "Please *sweep* these crumbs" or "Please *sweep up* these crumbs"?
13. What sports do you *go in for*?
14. Do girls *go in more for* painting or for sculpture?
15. Why does this bread *taste of* onions?
16. Why does everything in the icebox *taste of* cabbage?

# Lesson 26



1. to knock out: (to render unconscious by a strong blow) (S)
   1. The prizefighter *knocked out* his opponent with one punch.
   2. The stone struck her on the head and *knocked* her *out* for several minutes.
   3. The fight was won by a *knockout*.

2. to carry out: (to accomplish, execute, bring to a successful end) (S)
   1. They *carried out* their plan without difficulty.
   2. The men refused *to carry out* the captain's orders.
   3. It's easier to make plans than *to carry* them *out*.





3. to run into – to run across: (to meet or find unexpectedly; see also *to come across*, Lesson 24, No. 3)
   1. You will never guess whom I *ran into* on Fifth Avenue yesterday.
   2. I *ran across* several interesting facts about Mexico in that book.

4. to set out: (to begin, leave from a place or start out for a place)
   1. Jack *set out* to compete for the large scholarship grant.
   2. Those soldiers *set out* at dawn in accordance with their commander's orders.
   3. Early the next morning Stanley *set out* on foot for Boston.

5. to draw up: (to prepare. Said of legal papers, contracts, agreements, etc.) (S)
   1. Our lawyer will *draw up* the contract today.
   2. This agreement is not *drawn up* correctly.
   3. If you want to make a will, you will have to have a lawyer *draw* one *up* for you.

6. to drop in or drop in on: (to call on or to visit unexpectedly)
   1. If you are ever in our neighborhood, be sure *to drop in on* us.
   2. Some old friends *dropped in on* us last night.
   3. *Drop in* tonight after work, if you can.

7. to drop out: (to leave, withdraw, cease attending)
   1. Many students have *dropped out* of our school on account of the economic depression.
   2. Two more teams have *dropped out* of the league.

8. to believe in: (to accept as true, have faith in the existence of)
   1. I really think that she *believes in* ghosts.

2. No adolescent today *believes in* such things as giants and fairies.

9. to cheer up: (to make happier, inspire) (S)
   1. We all tried *to cheer* her *up*, but she continued to feel very despondent.
   2. I have some news which I am sure will *cheer* John *up*.
   3. The nurse tried *to cheer up* her despondent patient.

10. to make sense: (to be sensible, reasonable)
   1. Your socialistic plea to divide all the wealth does not *make* any *sense* to a capitalist.
   2. To send troops abroad when we need them here simply does not *make sense*.

11. to blow down – to blow off – to blow away, etc.
   (Note: These forms are not idiomatic, but, like those studied in the last lesson, Lesson 25, No. 12, they are important to the foreign student, since they show how the particles *down, off, away*, etc., are often added to a verb to change the meaning slightly or to make the meaning more exact.) (S)
   1. The wind *blew down* the fence *(blew* the fence *down)*.
   2. The roof of the house was *blown off* during the storm.
   3. I'm afraid the wind may *blow away* the tent *(blow* the tent *away)*.

12. to break down – to break through – to break away, etc.
   (See note above on *to blow down, to blow off*, etc.)
   1. They *broke down* the door *(broke* the door *down)* and entered the room.
   2. Our troops finally *broke through* the enemy lines.
   3. After a brief struggle, he *broke away* from the police.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.



1. If someone has been *knocked out*, he has been
   (a) punched.
   (b) beaten.
   (c) knocked unconscious.
2. If something doesn't *make sense*, it is not
   (a) funny.
   (b) true.
   (c) logical.
3. To *cheer someone up* is to
   (a) criticize him.
   (b) make him feel happier.
   (c) sit with him.
4. If someone *drops out*, he
   (a) begins.
   (b) is often absent.
   (c) leaves permanently.
5. If someone *drops in* on me, he
   (a) visits me.
   (b) drops me a line.
   (c) gives me a ring.
6. To *draw up* a contract is to
   (a) sign a contract.
   (b) prepare a contract.
   (c) look over a contract.
7. To *run across* someone is to
   (a) run over him.
   (b) run up to him.
   (c) meet him unexpectedly.
8. If I *set out* early, I
   (a) arrive early.
   (b) wake up early.
   (c) leave early.
9. If orders are *carried out*, they are
   (a) criticized.
   (b) not understood.
   (c) executed.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. In order to avoid heavy traffic, what time did John *set out* this morning on his camping trip?
2. Whom did you *run into* on Fifth Avenue recently?
3. What is the difference between *to run into* a person and *to run over* a person?
4. What do we mean when we say that "John *ran into* a tree"?
5. What does *to run out* of something mean?
6. What old friends *dropped in on* you not so long ago?
7. Do you like to have friends *drop in on* you or do you prefer that they tell you in advance that they are coming?
8. Have any students *dropped out* of your English class this semester?
9. Why did that student *drop out* of school?
10. Is it easy or difficult *to knock out* a person?
11. Have you ever been *knocked out*?
12. How does a boxer win a fight by scoring a *knock-out*?
13. What is the difference in meaning between, "His hat *blew off*" and "His hat *blew away*"?
14. What is the difference between *to break up* something and *to break down* something?
15. What is the difference in meaning between, "He *got out* of jail" and "He *broke out* of jail"?

# Lesson 27

1. to burst out crying — to burst out laughing: (to begin suddenly to laugh or to cry)
   1. Everyone was quiet when John suddenly *burst out laughing.*



   2. Every time that she thought about him she *burst out crying* (also, *burst into tears).*

2. to get away: (to leave, escape)
   1. We always try *to get away* from the noise and heat of the city for a month or two each summer.
   2. Father doesn't know yet when we can *get away* this summer.
   3. No one knows how the suspect managed *to get away* from the police.

3. to get away with: (to do something forbidden or illegal and to escape without punishment)
   1. I don't know how he *gets away with* it, but he comes late to the lesson almost every day.
   2. You can't be rude to everyone and expect *to get away with* it forever.

4. to keep up: (to maintain or continue the same speed or level) (S)
   1. If we can *keep up* this speed, we should arrive there in about two days.
   2. The government wants *to keep up* farm prices at their present levels.
   3. That student has been getting all A's. I hope he can *keep* it *up.*

5. to make up: (a. to compensate for some loss or absence. (S) b. to become reconciled after a quarrel. c. to invent or to fabricate. (S) d. to apply cosmetics.)

a. 1. If you miss a lesson, we can *make* it *up* later.
   2. Those unexcused absences must be *made up.*
   3. John was absent from the examination and has to take *a make-up* exam tomorrow.

b. 1. After the quarrel the two young lovers kissed and *made up.*

2. Why don't you two children *make up* and forget all about your quarrel?

c. 1. That story which John told was not true; he *made* it all *up*.
2. She *made up* a long story about being out of town at the time.

d. 1. Do you like to see women *make up* in public?
2. Helen uses a lot of *makeup*.

6. to stand out: (to be prominent, outstanding)
   1. Her bright red hair made her *stand out* from the others.
   2. He is a tall, distinguished looking man who *stands out* in any crowd.

7. to go wrong: (to fail, turn out badly)
   1. Something *went wrong* with the motor, and we had to have our car towed to the garage.
   2. I am sure that something has *gone wrong* with their car; otherwise our guests would have arrived long ago.

8. to serve one right: (to receive one's just punishment)
   1. It *served him right* to lose that job, because he neglected it.
   2. It *serves you right* to have lost your purse. You were always too careless about leaving it around.

9. to let on: (to reveal, inform)
   1. Don't *let on* to Doris that we are going to the movies tonight.
   2. He asked me not *to let on* to anyone that we were planning the birthday party.

10. to meet someone halfway: (to compromise)
    1. Our suppliers are ready *to meet us halfway* in the matter of price.



    2. In an effort to end the strike, the owners agreed *to meet the strikers halfway*.

11. to check up – to check on – to check up on: (to check, examine, inspect)
    1. They are *checking up (checking on, checking up on)* that information right now.
    2. That employer has hired a detective *to check up (check on, check up on)* all of the employee's past activities.
    3. I want to go to the doctor and have a general *check-up*.

12. to stick up – to stick out: (to protrude) (S)
    1. Your hair is *sticking up* in the back.
    2. I could see one end of the letter *sticking out* of John's pocket.
    3. The doctor told me *to stick out* my tongue, so I *stuck* it *out*.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. If, after a quarrel, two friends *make up*, this means that they (never speak to each other again, hate each other, become reconciled, come to blows).
2. If I say that John *made up* that story, I mean that he (told it well, invented it, repeated it several times).
3. To use *makeup* is to (go to extremes, tell lies, use cosmetics).
4. If something *sticks out*, it (protrudes, is sticky, shines, aches).
5. *To get away with* something is to (enjoy it, do it repeatedly, do it and escape without punishment).
6. If someone *bursts out* laughing, he (laughs constantly, hurts himself laughing, begins to laugh suddenly).

7. If I say that something *served you right*, I mean that you (had a good time, deserved it, received good service).
8. *To meet someone halfway* is to (argue with him, run into him, run over him, compromise with him).
9. *To stand out* is to (be prominent or outstanding, wait outside, stand in line).
10. *To let on* is to (wait, give permission, reveal, accept).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why do you say that John, who never prepares his homework, will not *get away with* it for very long?
2. How does that file clerk manage *to get away with* coming late to the office every morning?
3. Why did it *serve William right* to lose his job?
4. Why did it *serve Senator Smith right* to be defeated in the election?
5. Do you like or dislike to see women *make up* in public?
6. Do most women use much or little *makeup*?
7. Why do actors and actresses have to use so much *makeup*?
8. Why did the thief *make up* that story about finding the money in the street?
9. Why did Tom's girl friend ask him not *to let on* to her sister that she was going to the dance?
10. Why did Mrs. Jones suddenly *burst out crying*?
11. Why did everyone in your English class suddenly *burst out laughing* when John got to class very late?
12. Why does that actor *stand out* in any group or crowd?
13. Why did the doctor tell you *to stick out* your tongue?
14. Whose pencil is that which is *sticking out* of John's pocket?

# Lesson 28

1. to come about: (to happen, result)
   1. How did the accident *come about*?
   2. The flood *came about* as a result of the heavy spring rains.

2. to build up: (to increase, make stronger) (S)
   1. He needs a good tonic *to build up* his strength.
   2. They are trying *to build up* their army to pre-war strength.
   3. Attendance at that new play is so minimal that the producers are trying *to build* it *up*.

3. to bring about: (to cause to happen) (S)
   1. The accident was *brought about* by John's carelessness.
   2. The heavy spring rains *brought about* the flood.
   3. Jill and Harry have separated. What *brought* it *about*?

4. to die down: (to decrease, lessen in intensity)
   1. After John left, the party *died down*.
   2. The room seemed warm enough so we let the fire *die down*.

5. to die away: (to diminish gradually in the distance, referring to sound)
   1. The sound of the horn on the excursion boat slowly *died away*.
   2. The parade passed and the music of the band gradually *died away*.

6. to die out: (to disappear gradually but completely)
   1. The custom of wearing vests seems *to be dying out*.
   2. That style of dancing *died out* years ago.

7. to make out: (a. to do, succeed. See Lesson 10, No. 3. b. to decipher, to understand. (S) c. to prepare something, such as a will, a check, etc. (S) d. to pretend)

   (a) 1. How did you *make out* in your examination yesterday?
   2. I'm sure John will *make out* well in that job.

   (b) 1. The letter was so badly written that I could not *make out* what she had written.
   2. No one could *make out* what he was talking about.
   3. Can you tell what the student has written here? I can't *make* it *out*.



   (c) 1. He *made out* his will last week.
   2. John, will you please *make out* a check to pay the telephone bill?

   (d) 1. Helen tried *to make out* that she was ill.

8. to live up to: (to reach or maintain a certain high standard)
   1. The car salesman never *lives up to* the promises he makes.
   2. It was clear that that lazy student would never *live up to* his family's expectations.

9. to stand up for: (to insist upon; also to defend, to support)
   1. If you don't *stand up for* your rights, no one else will do it for you.
   2. All through the faculty meeting Frank *stood up for* his friend who was being criticized so severely.

10. to stick to: (to adhere to, persevere, be constant)
    1. Although I moistened it, the flap will not *stick to* the rest of the envelope.
    2. He has had five different jobs in the last year because he never *sticks to* anything very long.
    3. If you *stick to* it long enough you can find the answer to that problem.

11. to stick someone: (to cheat someone)
    1. Be careful dealing with him. He'll *stick you* at the first opportunity.
    2. They certainly *stuck me* when I bought this car. I have had trouble with it constantly.

12. to be stuck – to get stuck: (to be cheated, to become cheated – also to be burdened with)
    1. If you paid more than three hundred dollars for that old car, you *got stuck*.

2. I certainly *got stuck* when I bought this raincoat; every time I go out in the rain, it shrinks some more.
3. I guess I *got stuck* with the task of providing entertainment at our annual church party.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. *To bring about* something is to
   (a) hear about it.
   (b) talk about it.
   (c) cause it to happen.
2. If something *dies out,* it
   (a) disappears completely.
   (b) begins.
   (c) grows in strength.
3. If a sound *dies away,* it
   (a) increases in intensity.
   (b) is musical.
   (c) diminishes gradually in the distance.
4. If I *build up* my strength, I
   (a) undermine it.
   (b) increase it.
   (c) underestimate it.
5. If, in buying something, I *get stuck,* I
   (a) get a good bargain.
   (b) can't resist it.
   (c) am cheated.
6. If I can't *make something out,* I can't
   (a) enjoy it.
   (b) describe it.
   (c) understand it.



7. *To come about* is to
   (a) happen.
   (b) leave early.
   (c) arrive on time.
8. If, in his new job, John *is making out* well, he is
   (a) doing well.
   (b) earning much money.
   (c) just starting.
9. If William never *sticks to* anything, he never
   (a) arrives on time.
   (b) stays at home.
   (c) perseveres or continues for a sufficient period of time.
10. He *stood up for* his friend means that he
   (a) gave his friend his seat.
   (b) defended him.
   (c) went out with him.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answer of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. How did you *make out* in your last English examination?
2. How is your friend *making out* in his new job?
3. Why were you unable *to make out* what those two men were talking about?
4. Why were you unable *to make out* what Mary had written in that note which she sent you?
5. What happens at the bank if a check is not *made out* correctly?
6. How did that accident which happened on the corner *come about*?
7. What *brought about* Jane's illness?
8. What finally *brought about* the end of the Second World War?
9. Why did Pedro *get stuck* when he bought those shoes?

10. Why did Mr. Smith *get stuck* when he bought that automobile?
11. Why does Nelson never seem *to stick to* any job for very long? Is he restless or does he get fired?
12. Why does the custom of wearing vests seem *to be dying out*?
13. Why do certain styles in men's and women's clothes *die out* more quickly than others?
14. Why did the sound of that music gradually *die away*?
15. What is the difference between *to die down* and *to die away*?

# Lesson 29

1. to take on: (to employ, hire) (S)
   1. They are *taking on* many new workers at that plant.
   2. We will have *to take on* someone to do John's work while he's away.
   3. If you like that new job applicant, let's *take* him *on*.
2. to take down: (to remove; also, to write in shorthand) (S)
   1. I want *to take down* all the pictures and clean them.
   2. She's going *to take down* those curtains and put up different ones.
   3. His secretary *took down* everything that we said.
   4. That stenographer *took down* the President's entire speech in shorthand.
   5. That concert notice is out of date. *Take* it *down*.
3. to fall off: (to fall from something; also, to decrease in volume)
   1. Henry *fell off* his bicycle.



   2. The picture *fell off* the wall and broke.
   3. Our sales have *fallen off* seriously during the past six months.
   4. Business conditions are bad at present and that salesman's commissions have *fallen off*.
4. to fall through: (to fail to materialize, collapse)
   1. Our plans for a big picnic *fell through*.
   2. We wanted to go to Europe this summer but our plans *fell through*.
5. to fall behind: (to lag, fail to keep up)
   1. John *fell behind* in his studies and finally had to leave school.
   2. If you *fall behind* in your payments, the finance company may seize your car.
6. to give in: (to surrender)
   1. Completely surrounded by our troops, the enemy finally *gave in*.
   2. They *gave in* to the strikers' demands.
7. to give off: (to release, produce)
   1. Water, when boiled, always *gives off* steam.
   2. The flowers *gave off* a strange odor.
8. to give out: (a. to distribute (S); b. to become exhausted, terminate)

   a. 1. An usher stood at the door *giving out* programs.
   2. They *gave out* a sample of the perfume to each customer.
   3. That radical student *gives* pamphlets *out* to all comers.

   b. 1. When their ammunition *gave out*, the troops had to surrender.
   2. I plan to stay there until my money *gives out*.

9. to have it in for: (to dislike, hold a grudge, wait for an opportunity for revenge)
   1. He expected to lose his job because the boss had *had it in for* him for a long time.
   2. The teacher has *had it in for* John ever since the time that he insulted her in front of the class.

10. to have it out with: (to quarrel with, confront, bring into the open)
    1. I have suspected him of lying for a long time, and today we are going *to have it out with* him.
    2. Instead of waiting for the arrival of our counsel, it is better *to have it out with* the thief right away.

11. to hold off: (to delay)
    1. If the rain *holds off* for a few days more, they can finish the planting.
    2. Their attorney has promised *to hold off* legal action for another week.

12. to hold out: (a. to continue in supply, prove to be sufficient; b. to resist)

    a. 1. If our supplies *hold out*, we will camp here for another week.

    2. I will stay in Mexico as long as my money *holds out*.

    b. Our troops cannot *hold out* much longer against the superior forces of the enemy.

13. to hold over: (to continue something, postpone) (S)
    1. They are going *to hold* that movie *over* for another week.
    2. Let's *hold over* discussion of this problem until our next meeting.



14. to turn over: (a. to overturn, place upside down; b. to transfer to another) (S)

    a. 1. The car *turned over* twice before falling into the river.

    2. If you *turn over* a turtle on its back, it becomes helpless.

    3. That record is finished. *Turn* it *over* on the other side.

    b. 1. Mr. Collins will *turn over* his work to Miss Giles when he goes away.

    2. He has decided *to turn over* his business to his son.

    3. The victim *turned* the pieces of the exploded bomb *over* to the police.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. A secretary *wrote in shorthand* everything the prisoner said. (take____________)
2. Our sales have been *decreasing* recently. (fall____________)
3. They are *hiring* many new workers at that factory. (take____________)
4. The material, when wet, *produces* a strong odor. (give____________)
5. She has *waited for revenge on* him for a long time. (have it____________)
6. He will *transfer* all his property to his wife. (turn____________)
7. The car struck a tree and *overturned* three times. (turn____________)
8. They are going *to extend the showing of* that movie for another week. (hold____________)

9. If my money *proves sufficient,* I will stay another month.
10. They are beginning to *lag* in their payments.
(fall______________)
11. Our plans for a big holiday dance *collapsed.*
(fall______________)
12. He argued so long that I finally *surrendered* to him.
(give______________)

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why did the plans for a school dance *fall through*?
2. Why did Irma's plans to travel abroad this summer *fall through*?
3. What happens if someone *falls behind* in his payments on the mortgage on his home?
4. What may happen to you if you *fall behind* in your school work?
5. Why did our troops finally *give in* to the enemy?
6. Why did the owners eventually have *to give in* to the strikers' demands?
7. Why has the movie at the Radio City Music Hall been *held over* for another week?
8. Why has the teacher *had it in for* Mary for a long time?
9. What accounts for the fact that sales have been *falling off* recently?
10. Did that man *fall off* the roof or was he pushed by someone?
11. Why did a secretary *take down* everything that the witness told the police captain?
12. Why are they *taking on* so many new workers at that plant?
13. Why is Mr. Smith *turning over* his business to his son?
14. Which car *turned over* twice in the accident, yours or the other person's?
15. Why does a turtle become helpless if you *turn* it *over* on its back?

# Lesson 30

1. to let up: (to slacken, lessen in intensity)
   1. If the rain *lets up* a little, they may begin the parade.
   2. It has rained for three days without *letting up.*
2. to lay off: (to dismiss temporarily, generally because of lack of work) (S)
   1. During this season of the year they often *lay off* many workers at that plant.
   2. If business continues to be slow, we may have *to lay off* one or two people.
   3. Was John fired or *laid off*?
   4. Bill hasn't lost his job. His firm *laid* him *off* for two weeks.

3. to bring out: (to produce, to present) (S)
    1. They try *to bring out* one new book each month.
    2. Most of the automobile companies *bring out* new models of their cars each year.
    3. The clerk *brought out* several different types of gloves for us to examine.
    4. We wanted to see some old family pictures so Jennie *brought* them *out* and showed them to us.

4. to bring back – to take back: (to return) (S)
    1. If you don't like the dress you bought, when you get home, you can always *bring* it *back*.
    2. You can borrow my car if you promise *to bring* it *back* tomorrow.
    3. When are you going to *bring back* my screwdriver?
    4. If I were you, I'd *take* those gloves *back* and get my money refunded.
    5. I *took* the book *back* to the library yesterday.

5. to wait up for: (to wait until very late without going to bed at the usual time)
    1. Don't *wait up for* me tonight. I may be very late.
    2. We *waited up for* him until two o'clock and then finally went to bed.

6. to let someone or something alone: (to permit to be alone, avoid, stay away from)
    1. *Let him alone* for a while and he may go to sleep.
    2. The plant will grow much better if you *let it alone*.
    3. After the dog had bitten him once or twice, Peter *let it alone*.

7. let alone: (not to mention, to say nothing of)
    1. I wouldn't walk as far as the corner today, *let alone* go to the zoo with you.



    2. He doesn't even speak his own language well, *let alone* French.

8. to break off: (to terminate, put an end to; see also Lesson 20, No. 1) (S)
    1. We may *break off* relations with that country.
    2. Diplomatic relations were *broken off* between the two countries several years before the war began.
    3. Elsa and Bob were engaged, but they have *broken* it *off*.

9. to wear off: (to disappear gradually)
    1. My headache isn't serious. It will *wear off* after an hour or so.
    2. The effect of the pain-killing drug did not *wear off* for several hours.

10. to wear down – to wear away – to wear through: (to reduce gradually through the process of wear; see *to wear out*, Lesson 8, No. 7) (S)
    1. The heels of your shoes are *worn down* on one side.
    2. The constant washing of the sea against the rocks gradually *wears* them *away*.
    3. The seat of his pants was *worn through*.
    4. He had *worn through* his coat at the elbows.
    5. Helga threw away that dress because she had *worn* it *out*.

11. on the whole: (in general)
    1. He is, *on the whole*, a good student.
    2. *On the whole*, I agree with you.

12. to read over: (to glance over – to run over) (S)
    Note: The particle *over*, when added to verbs, gives the meaning of examining something from beginning to end but in a rather rapid or superficial manner.

1. The teacher said that she didn't have time to correct my composition but she did *read* it *over*.
2. He *glanced over* my report and said that it seemed to be all right.
3. Let's *run over* this new list of prices once more.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized word or words.

1. *To break off* relations with another country is to (desire relations with them, terminate relations, increase trade with them).
2. If I *take something back,* I (return it, borrow it, lend it).
3. If someone has been *dismissed temporarily from his job* because of lack of work, he has been (fired, hired, laid off).
4. *To wait up for* is to (wait and be very angry, wait for a long time, wait until late without going to bed).
5. If the rain *lets up,* it (slackens, rains harder, rains constantly).
6. If the seat of someone's trousers is *worn through,* it (is shiny, is spotted, has a hole in it, has worn well).
7. If something *wears off,* it (disappears gradually, breaks down, lasts a long time).
8. *On the whole* means (entirely, occasionally, in general).
9. *To read over* something is to (read it rather hurriedly, read it with great interest, read it over and over).
10. Which of these can *wear down:* (your hair, your gloves, your heels)?

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. With what different countries has the United States *broken off* diplomatic relations at one time or another?
2. Was that efficient worker fired from his job or *laid off*?



3. Why do some factories or industries *lay off* workers during certain periods of the year?
4. What is the difference in meaning between *to take on* someone and *to lay off* someone?
5. Why do most of the automobile manufacturers try *to bring out* new models of their cars each year?
6. What is the difference between *to wait for* someone and *to wait up for* someone?
7. Why did Sarah tell her mother not *to wait up for* her when she went out last night?
8. For how many days has it rained without *letting up*?
9. What is meant by saying that Hubert can't speak Spanish well, *let alone* French?
10. How long does it take for the effects of a drug such as aspirin *to wear off*?
11. What do you do when the heels of your shoes become *worn down*?
12. What is the difference between *to wear down* and *to wear away*?
13. What do we mean when we say that something has *worn through*?
14. If the soles of your shoes are *worn through,* what must you do?
15. Can you explain the difference between *to read* something and *to read over* something?
16. What is the difference in meaning between *to look at* something and *to look over* something?

# Lesson 31

1. to work out: (to develop, devise, turn out) (S)
   1. Don't worry. Everything will *work out* all right.
   2. We must *work out* some plan to increase our sales.

3. I can't give you a promotion this year, but I believe I can *work* it *out* next July.

2. to back up: (to put a car in reverse, drive or go backwards) (S)
   1. Main Street was blocked with traffic, so I *backed up* and drove down one of the side streets.
   2. *Back up* a few feet more and then you can get out.
   3. If you want to get your car in that tight space, you'll have *to back* it *up* some more.

3. to back out: (to withdraw, fail to fulfill a promise or obligation)
   1. At the last minute John *backed out* and refused to go with us.
   2. We were all ready to sign the agreements when Mr. Smith *backed out.*

4. to be set to do something: (to be ready, prepared to do something)
   1. We *were all set to leave* when it started to rain.
   2. We *were all set to sign* the agreement when Mr. Smith backed out.

5. to set forth: (to leave, start out; also, to present)
   1. We all *set forth* on our journey in the highest spirits.
   2. The speaker *set forth* his arguments in a convincing manner.

6. to have one's heart set on: (to desire greatly)
   1. She *has her heart set on* taking a trip abroad.
   2. For years he *has had his heart set on* buying that shore property.

7. to buy up: (to buy the complete stock of) (S)
   1. The government plans *to buy up* all surplus grain in order to stabilize the price.



   2. Russia is trying *to buy up* all the available tin.
   3. If you have any real silver quarters, the dealers are *buying them up* at a premium.

8. to buy out: (to buy a business from another person) (S)
   1. He can sell his interest in that business any time because Mr. Smith will gladly *buy* him *out.*
   2. He has been trying for some time *to buy out* his partner.

9. to sell out: (to sell completely, liquidate) (S)
   1. The day after the blackout, most stores *sold out* their entire stock of flashlights within a few hours.
   2. There was a sign on the ticket office saying: "All *Sold Out.*"
   3. The sign in the shop window read: "Big Sale! Tremendous Savings! *Selling Out!*"

10. to catch on: (to understand, particularly to grasp the meaning of a humorous story)
    1. To me it was a very funny story, but when I told it nobody seemed *to catch on.*
    2. Did you *catch on* to what John said?
    3. Since she doesn't understand English well, she did not *catch on* to any of the jokes we told.

11. to be cut out for – to be cut out to be: (to be designed for, have talent for)
    1. John *is* certainly *not cut out to be* a lawyer.
    2. Why should I try to do that kind of work when I know very well that I *am not cut out for* it?

12. to throw out: (to dismiss, eject by force) (S)
    1. The case was *thrown out* of court because of insufficient evidence.
    2. When one of the guests became drunk, they immediately *threw* him *out* of the cafe.

13. to throw up: (to vomit) (S)
   1. John got sick and *threw up* everything he had eaten.
   2. When I get seasick I *throw up* my food.
   3. The patient, unable to digest his food, *threw* it *all up*.

14. to clear up: (to become clear, to clarify) (S)
   1. The newspaper says that the weather is going *to clear up* tomorrow.
   2. As soon as Henry arrives he will *clear up* this problem.
   3. That murder was a mystery for a long time, but a clever detective *cleared* it *up*.

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

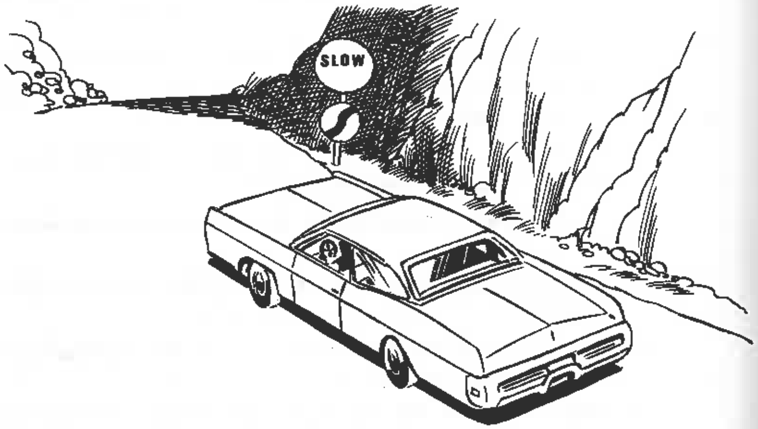
1. At the last minute John *withdrew from* the agreement. (back________)
2. He put the car in reverse and *drove backwards*. (back________)
3. We have *to seek and develop* a new method. (work__________)
4. He *presented* his reasons very clearly. (set__________)
5. He *desires greatly* to become a doctor. (have his heart__________)
6. Nobody except Helen *understood* the joke. (catch__________)
7. They *completely sold* their stock of shoes. (sell__________)
8. They want *to purchase the entire supply of* that metal. (buy__________)
9. He was *ejected by force from* the place. (throw__________)
10. I *have no talent* for that kind of work. (cut out__________)



B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Why do students think that Miss Bacon *is not cut out to be* a teacher?
2. Why is John *not cut out to be* a mechanic? What *is he cut out for*?
3. Why was the gate-crasher *thrown out* of the theater?
4. Why did they *throw* that noisy drunk *out* of the restaurant?
5. Why does Albert *have his heart set on* being a doctor?
6. Why does that painter *have her heart set on* going to Mexico this summer?
7. Is there something *on* which you personally *have your heart set* at the present time?
8. In driving an automobile, is it easier to drive forward or *to back up*?
9. What do we mean when we say, "John *backed up* into a tree?"
10. Why did Jack's wife *back out of* her agreement to go camping with him?
11. What opinion do you have of people who at the last moment *back out* of their promises or agreements?
12. Why would an owner wish *to sell out* his interest in a business?
13. What does an "All *Sold Out*" sign outside a theater ticket office mean?
14. If Mr. Jones wants *to buy out* his partner in that business, whose consent must he get?
15. What is the difference between *to buy* something and *to buy up* something?
16. What is the difference between *to buy up* and *to buy out*?

# Lesson 32




1. to slow up (down): (to go more slowly) (S)
   1. There were signs at every curve in the road warning motorists *to slow up.*
   2. I told him several times *to slow down* but he paid no attention.
   3. That racing car is so powerful that it is impossible to *slow* it *down* to a normal speed.
2. to dry up: (to dry completely) (S)
   1. Every summer this stream *dries up.*
   2. It rained very little and the streets soon *dried up.*





3. to dry out: (to become dry through a gradual loss of moisture) (S)
   1. If you don't cover the bread, it will soon *dry out.*
   2. We can't use this wood. It is too green and not *dried out.*
   3. Martha hung up her wet wash in order to *dry* it *out.*
4. to be up to something: (to be planning or plotting something, scheming)
   1. What *are* those two boys *up to*?
   2. Some persons believe those men are spies, but no one knows what they *are up to.*
   3. I thought you were asleep. What *are* you *up to* now?
5. to beat about the bush: (to be indirect in approaching something)
   1. Instead of *beating about the bush,* Jones came straight to the point.
   2. That cautious client *beats about the bush* so much that no one knows exactly what he wants.
6. to come to an end: (to terminate, cease)
   1. The meeting finally *came to an end* at ten o'clock.
   2. I thought that the movie would never *come to an end.*
7. to put an end to: (to cause to end, to terminate in a definite manner)
   1. You must *put an end to* that kind of malicious gossip.
   2. It is up to the police *to put an end to* these robberies.
8. to get even with: (to be revenged, retaliate)
   1. Jerry once played a mean trick on John, and now John wants *to get even* with him.
   2. I'll *get even with* you for this.
   3. Her divorced husband says that he will *get even with* her if it takes ten years.

9. to fool around: (to play and joke, spend time foolishly with little result)
   1. Quit *fooling around* and get to work.
   2. He is capable, but he *fools around* too much; he jokes with the girls, calls his friends on the telephone, etc.

10. to look out on: (to face, overlook)
    1. Our apartment *looks out on* the river.
    2. Their rear windows *look out on* a lovely garden.

11. to stir up: (arouse, incite) (S)
    1. He's always trying *to stir up* everyone with his arguments about politics.
    2. They are trying *to stir up* trouble between the owners of the plant and the workers.
    3. The boss is in a bad mood today so don't *stir* him *up* with any more customer complaints.

12. to be taken in: (to be deceived, cheated) (S)
    1. That poor widow *was taken in* by the security salesman's smooth manner of talking and gave him all her savings to invest for her, which he subsequently lost.
    2. Ronald certainly *took* us *in* with his stories about his experiences in Mexico.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. If I *put an end to* something, I
   (a) delay it.
   (b) terminate it definitely.
   (c) slow it down.

2. If I *get even with* someone, I
   (a) borrow from him.
   (b) lend him money.
   (c) gain revenge on him.



3. If someone *fools around* a great deal, he
   (a) wastes much time.
   (b) has a sense of humor.
   (c) telephones his friends.

4. If someone *is taken in,* he is
   (a) promoted.
   (b) invited to attend.
   (c) deceived.

5. If something *looks out on* the park, it
   (a) resembles the park.
   (b) faces the park.
   c) is as large as the park.

6. When a driver *slows up,* he
   (a) stops.
   (b) goes more slowly.
   (c) gets nervous.

7. If bread *dries out,* it
   (a) tastes fresh.
   (b) loses its moisture.
   (c) has just come out of the oven.

8. If someone *is up to something,* he is
   (a) upstairs doing something.
   (b) in prison.
   (c) plotting something.

9. To *beat about the bush* is to
   (a) go hunting.
   (b) be direct in approaching something.
   (c) be indirect in approaching something.

10. When something *dries up,* it
    (a) becomes completely dry.
    (b) remains partly wet.
    (c) gets soaking wet.

Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. What can be done in order to prevent bread from *drying out*?

2. Does bread, when it *dries out*, become harder or softer?
3. If the sun comes out, how long does it take the streets *to dry up* after a rainstorm?
4. Why do many snow-fed mountain streams *dry up* during certain seasons of the year?
5. What *are* you *up to* now?
6. Why do you think that those boys *are up to* some trick or other?
7. Why did you think the meeting last night would never *come to an end*?
8. In what year did the Second World War finally *come to an end?*
9. Why are there so many signs along that road warning motorists *to slow down*?
10. If John had *slowed up (down)* before reaching the corner, would the accident have happened?
11. What is the name of the New York park that that tall apartment house *looks out on*?
12. Why was that student so anxious *to get even with* his roommate?
13. How might a teacher *get even with* a student who insulted her?
14. Why did the teacher tell William to stop *fooling around* and to get to work?
15. Why did Henry *beat around the bush* so long instead of directly inviting Mary to the dance?

# Lesson 33

1. to go through: (a. to endure, undergo, experience; b. go or be put into effect)

   a. 1. You will never know what she *went through* to educate her children.
      2. They all *go through* a thorough physical training.



   b. 1. His application finally *went through.*
      2. Are they *going through* with their plans to build a new home?

2. to go without saying: (to be perfectly clear without the necessity of mentioning)
   1. It *goes without saying* that that Congressman is very sincere in his wish to help the needy.
   2. That she will lose all her friends if she continues to gossip about them *goes without saying.*

3. to put one's foot into it: (to make a foolish remark, commit a social blunder)
   1. You certainly *put your foot into it* when you told that poet that you did not like poetry.
   2. Not knowing she was married, John *put his foot in it* when he told her husband that she was rather stupid.

4. to keep one's head: (to remain calm during some emergency)
   1. The astronauts *kept their heads* throughout all the excitement.
   2. That housewife *kept her head* and telephoned the fire department immediately; otherwise the whole house might have burned down.

5. to lose one's head: (to become very excited, lose one's self control)
   1. If that politician hadn't gotten angry and *lost his head*, he never would have slandered his opponent.
   2. Seeing the other car coming toward him, at such speed, John *lost his head* and drove up over the curb into a tree.

6. to cut in: (to interrupt, enter sharply into the path of another)
   1. We were talking quietly when she *cut in.*

2. They were driving along slowly when another car *cut in* ahead of them.

7. to cut short: (to make shorter, end prematurely, interrupt) (S)
   1. The meeting was *cut short* when the speaker became ill.
   2. Our trip was *cut short* by the bad news from home.
   3. If you have anything more to say, please *cut* it *short* as your time is nearly up.

8. to stand up: (a. to withstand use or wear; b. to fail to appear, leave someone waiting at an appointment) (S)
   a. 1. The leather in these shoes will *stand up* much better than the leather in those you just tried on.
      2. Do you think this dress material will *stand up* well under such conditions?
   b. 1. After waiting for two hours, John began to realize that Helen had *stood* him *up*.
      2. I didn't know whether he had forgotten about the appointment or whether I was being *stood up*.

9. to get the better of: (to win or defeat, gain the advantage over a customer, etc.)
   1. He easily *got the better of* her in that argument.
   2. Be careful in dealing with him because he will try *to get the better of* you.

10. to break loose: (to become free or loose, escape)
    1. During the storm, the boat *broke loose* from the landing.
    2. He *broke loose* from the police and ran away.

11. to waste one's breath—to save one's breath: (to lose time talking in an effort to convince someone of something — to waste no words)
    1. Don't argue with Frank any longer. You are only



*wasting your breath* trying to get him to contribute to the Red Cross.
    2. I tried to convince him that he was wrong but I could see that I was only *wasting my breath*.
    3. *Save your breath*! Don't even mention your illness to your unsympathetic boss.

12. to make room for: (to create space for, accommodate)
    1. Sit here with us. We can move over and *make room for* you on this sofa.
    2. Please join us. We can easily *make room for* one more at this table.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. If someone *loses his head*, he (becomes dizzy, becomes very excited, goes insane).
2. If something is *cut short*, it is (ended abruptly, attacked, made more lively).
3. If something *stands up well*, it (grows well, wears well, looks well).
4. If someone *stands you up*, he (writes to you often, meets you on a corner, fails to meet you at an appointed place).
5. *To keep one's head* is to (remain calm, talk very little, get excited).
6. *To put one's foot into it* is to (dance well, complain about something, make a bad social error, utter a tactless remark).
7. If something *goes without saying*, it is (on everybody's tongue, clear without mentioning it, confusing to everyone).
8. If something *breaks loose*, it (becomes free, gets lost, sinks).

9. *Save your breath* means (don't walk so fast, don't work so hard, don't lose time trying to convince someone of something).
10. *To cut in* ahead of someone is to (drive slowly, enter sharply into the path of another, apply the brakes quickly).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions in this lesson.

1. How did that boat *break loose* from its mooring; did someone cut the rope or did it break?
2. How did the dog *break loose* from its owner?
3. Why is it *a waste of breath* to argue with a person with a closed mind about politics?
4. Why was Mr. Smith's trip to Europe *cut short*?
5. Why was one of your lessons *cut short*?
6. Have the shoes which you are wearing *stood up* well or have they been a disappointment?
7. Which will *stand up better*, a suit made of cotton or one made of wool?
8. Have you ever been *stood up* by anyone?
9. Why is it sometimes a rather humiliating experience *to be stood up*?
10. Why is it dangerous, while driving, *to cut in* ahead of another car?
11. If, while you are dancing, someone says, "May I *cut in*?" what does he mean?
12. Why do the boys say that *it goes without saying* that Cindy is the most popular girl in the school?
13. Why does *it go without saying* that the United States today must play an important part in world affairs?
14. Why did you *put your foot into it* when you told the teacher that you hated homework?
15. Are you the type of person who, in an emergency, *keeps his head* or *loses his head*?



# Lesson 34
## (General Review — Lessons 1-33)

A. In the blank sentences at the right, give a ONE-WORD synonym for the italicized word or words. Follow the example in the first sentence.

1. Some friends *dropped in on us* last night. visited
2. The plane *took off* at exactly ten o'clock. ________
3. I *came across* an old friend on Fifth Avenue yesterday. ________
4. He is a man whom everyone *looks up to*. ________
5. The troops easily *put down* the riot. ________
6. We waited until ten o'clock but he never *showed up*. ________
7. They *set out* at dawn on their camping trip. ________
8. The lawyer will *draw up* the contract tomorrow. ________
9. In this code each number *stands for* a letter of the alphabet. ________
10. Many students have *dropped out of* our class. ________
11. No one knows how he managed to *get away* from the police. ________
12. I am sure that John *made up* that story. ________
13. How did such a strange thing *come about*? ________

14. The sound of their voices gradually *died away*. ____________
15. How did you *make out* in your last examination? ____________
16. I can't *make out* what she means in this telegram. ____________
17. You have *made out* this check incorrectly. ____________
18. She tried to *make out* that she was ill. ____________
19. They are *taking on* more men at that factory. ____________
20. Last month they had to *lay off* several hundred men. ____________
21. Our sales have *fallen off* recently. ____________
22. An usher stood at the door *giving out* programs. ____________
23. The car *turned over* twice before landing in the lake. ____________
24. He will *turn over* all his property to his wife. ____________
25. As soon as the rain *lets up*, we will leave. ____________
26. The effects of the drug will *wear off* in a few hours. ____________
27. You must *put an end* to such foolishness. ____________
28. Our apartment *looks out on* the Columbia University campus. ____________
29. They are trying to *stir up* trouble among the smaller nations. ____________
30. We were all *taken in* by his smooth manner of talking. ____________



B. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to get*. (Examples: *get on, get off, get up, get along, get along with, get back, get over, get to, get sick, get in touch with, get used to, get rid of, get through, get lost, get on one's nerves, get away, get away with, get even with)*

1. You can *communicate with* him at his home tonight.
2. We will never *arrive in* Boston at this speed.
3. Mr. and Mrs. Smith do not *live together harmoniously*.
4. Sooner or later I will *get revenge on him*.
5. That music is beginning *to make me nervous*.
6. He will never *recover from* the death of his son.
7. When do you expect *to return* from Cuba?
8. How are you *doing in* your English lessons?
9. At what corner do you *board* the bus every morning?
10. At what corner do you *leave* the bus every morning?
11. At what time do you *arise* each morning?
12. When I eat fish I always *become* ill.
13. We have mice in our apartment and we can't seem *to lose or exterminate* them.
14. What time each night do you *finish* working?

C. Give sentences with the following idioms.

| | |
|---|---|
| to take off | to take advantage of |
| to take out | to take up |
| to take part in | to take up with |
| to take a walk | to take after |
| to take place | to take someone for |
| to take turns | to take charge of |
| to take care of | to take by surprise |
| to take hold of | to take apart |

| | |
|---|---|
| to take pity on | to take pains with |
| to take into account | to take off (airplane) |
| to take a look at | to take over |
| to take for granted | to take in |

D. Give sentences with the following idioms.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to cut down | to fall down | to give in | to wear down |
| to cut out | to fall off | to give off | to wear out |
| to cut off | to fall through | to give out | to wear off |
| to cut in | to fall behind | to give up | to wear away |

E. Give sentences illustrating the difference between the following pairs of idiomatic expressions.

| | |
|---|---|
| to get on—to get off | to wait for—to wait up for |
| to call on—to call off | to eat in—to eat out |
| to put on—to put off | to take off—to take on |
| to call up—to call down | to break up—to break down |
| to take out—to take in | to give in—to give out |
| to put up—to put down | to hold on—to hold off |
| to keep on—to keep off | to turn off—to turn on |
| to look up to—to look down on | to take up—to take down |

# Lesson 35

1. to have two strikes against oneself: (to be in a disadvantageous position or in danger)
   1. Why is that young girl marrying Larry? He already *has two strikes against him*—with two divorced wives.
   2. A typist who has two unexcused absences from this office *has two strikes against her*.
2. to step down: (to retire or leave a top position)
   1. Next May our company's president will *step down*, and we will have to elect a new one at the next stockholders' meeting.

2. In a couple of years that high school principal will *step down*, and his job will be taken by the vice-principal.

3. to be a steal: (to be a bargain)
   1. On Washington's Birthday we bought a $395 color television set for $89. That's *a steal*.
   2. What *a steal* that Wedgewood jar that we bought at a church fair was.

4. to play up to: (to flatter or keep in good with by assiduous attentions)
   1. Because that securities dealer *plays up to* wealthy old ladies so well, he makes a fortune on commissions.
   2. That popular girl *plays up to* all the eligible young men.

5. to pull one's punches: (to only pretend to fight or resist, or to criticize another lightly or leniently)
   1. In his frank talk with his wayward son, the father said that he was not *pulling his punches* in criticizing the young man's behavior.
   2. When I complained to our neighbors about their vicious dog, I didn't *pull any punches*.

6. to louse up: (to mix up or spoil something) (S)
   1. That ignorant repairman certainly *loused up* my television set.
   2. Our telephone service has been *loused up* for over a month.
   3. A poor trumpet player on that recording *loused* it *up*.

7. to be rained out: (said of a football game or any other outdoor activity that has to be postponed or called off on account of rain)
   1. That baseball game that we had planned to watch on TV *was rained out*.



   2. We didn't know that that outdoor hockey match *had been rained out* and so we had to drive back home without seeing it.

8. to go off the deep end: (to do something hastily, rashly, or dangerously)
   1. Just because you quarreled with your supervisor, you didn't have *to go off the deep end* and resign, did you?
   2. If reporters ask you for information, give them as much as they are entitled to, but don't *go off the deep end*.

9. to lose one's touch: (to fail at what one used to do well, to cease to interest others)
   1. Bangs used to sell more cars than any other of our salesmen did, but lately he has been *losing his touch* and is way behind the other men in sales.
   2. That movie star used to have lots of fans, but in recent years he has been *losing his touch*.

10. to have something going for oneself: (to be successful in some undertaking, attribute, or field of interest)
    1. With her brains and beauty Alma certainly *has something going for her*.
    2. Although she is only eighteen, that young dress designer *has something going for her*, as is shown by the heavy demand for her dresses.

11. on the double!: (Hurry!)
    1. Here it is nine o'clock and you two television watchers haven't done the dishes yet. *On the double*!
    2. I want that report from your office *on the double*!

12. to blow one's top: (to become enraged and swear or curse)
    1. When Alma's husband discovered a large bill for a

new fur coat among his correspondence, he *blew his top.*

2. Don't *blow your top,* boss, until after I have explained why I missed that important conference.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. If a poor musician *louses up* a concert, he
   (a) publicizes it.
   (b) ruins it.
   (c) improves it.

2. When a person *goes off the deep end,* he
   (a) acts rashly.
   (b) dives into the deeper water.
   (c) loses his self-control.

3. When that opera singer *plays up to* the conductor, she
   (a) plays a musical instrument for him.
   (b) attracts his interest.
   (c) flatters and seeks to interest him.

4. When someone *has something going for himself,* he
   (a) is successful in some enterprise or undertaking.
   (b) has his watch ticking.
   (c) is being arrested.

5. If something *is a steal,* it is
   (a) a stolen article.
   (b) an act of theft.
   (c) a bargain.

6. When a person *has two strikes against him,* he is
   (a) badly injured.
   (b) a complete failure.
   (c) at a considerable disadvantage.

7. If a man *loses his touch,* he
   (a) loses his attractiveness or influence with others.



   (b) loses all his money.
   (c) loses his sense of touch.

8. If a man *pulls his punches,* he
   (a) reaches for his drinks.
   (b) drags his tools to his workbench.
   (c) appears to be more violent than he really is.

9. When an employee *steps down,* he
   (a) leaves an important position with his firm or company.
   (b) goes downstairs from his office.
   (c) becomes less reliable.

10. If a night game of football is *rained out,* it
   (a) is called off on account of a power failure.
   (b) is postponed on account of rain.
   (c) is stopped because of the bottles thrown by the spectators.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. If John already *has two strikes against him,* is he in a favorable or unfavorable position?
2. When a new suit of clothes *is a steal,* is it stolen from its true owner or a great bargain?
3. When a person *pulls his punches,* does he treat another person mildly and tactfully or does he treat that person harshly?
4. When a baseball game is *rained out,* is it unaccompanied by rain or is it postponed on account of rain?
5. Are you more apt to *blow your top* if you have a flat tire than if you receive a handsome gift?
6. If you feel sorry for someone you have to scold, do you also feel like *pulling your punches* or don't you let your sympathy influence you?
7. Where is a sports event likely to have been scheduled if it is subsequently *rained out?*
8. When you *blow your top,* do you stay angry for a long time afterwards or do you soon recover your poise?

9. At what age does an employee usually *step down*?
10. Why might you feel that a new car regularly priced at $3,500 and on sale for $1,500 *is a steal*?
11. If that elderly man has poor vision and is deaf, *how many strikes does he have against him*?
12. What happens to a baseball batter that has *three strikes against him*?

# Lesson 36

1. to kick something around: (to discuss)
   1. At first our committee didn't want to accept my plan for a proposed branch office, and so they decided to *kick it around* for a while.
   2. Herb suggested that we *kick around* the treasurer's idea of insuring our employees before we hold a top-level conference on the matter.
2. to soup up: (to obtain greater power for – said of an engine) (S)
   1. By installing two carburetors, that racing-car enthusiast *souped up* his motor considerably.
   2. A high-test gasoline will *soup up* your car.
3. to say nothing of: (without having to mention what might well be mentioned)
   1. That employee is frequently late and also out a good deal – *to say nothing of* his laziness.
   2. Although she didn't feel up to it, Alice went to work despite a bad headache – *to say nothing of* a fever.
4. to pull oneself together: (to get control of oneself or to galvanize, to get into a mood of preparedness)
   1. After my teen-age daughter had had a good cry over



my refusal to let her go to a sexy movie, I told her *to pull herself together* and to do her homework.
   2. If you are going to catch that train, you'll have to *pull yourself together* and grab a taxi.
5. to be looking up: (to be improving)
   1. "How's business?" "Oh, things *are looking up*. I just got a lot of new orders."
   2. Prospects for building that new library *are looking up*.
6. to kick a habit: (to stop or break off a habit)
   1. Those patients in that hospital are trying *to kick the habit* of taking drugs.
   2. His doctor advised that heart patient, a heavy smoker, *to kick the habit*.
7. to get into the swing of things: (to adapt or adjust oneself to a new environment)
   1. As soon as that new employee *gets into the swing of things*, he'll be very valuable to us.
   2. It didn't take that American student very long *to get into the swing of things* at Oxford.
8. to give another person a piece of the cake: (to share or divide assets or profits with another person)
   1. Because their lawyer had been so helpful in arranging for the profitable sale of those two large office buildings, the real-estate operators decided *to give him a piece of the cake*.
   2. Because Allan had brought in a good deal of business to the firm he worked for, he expected to be given *a piece of the cake* when stock options were handed around.
9. to get all dolled up: (to dress in one's best and most expensive clothes)
   1. When she *gets all dolled up*, that housewife looks like a million dollars.

2. Do I have *to get all dolled up* and go to that stupid cocktail party?

10. to get lost: (to disappear or remove oneself upon request)
    1. When the bill collector tried to collect a bill for me, the debtor told him *to get lost*.
    2. You have no right to be hanging around my property. *Get lost!*

11. to go through channels: (to send a request or complaint through the correct chain of command)
    1. The president told the secretary that if she wished to have a raise, she would have to *go through channels* and apply to her own immediate boss.
    2. You'll never get anywhere in this firm unless you *go through channels*.

12. to front for: (to act as one's agent or spokesman but often giving the impression that one is the real leader)
    1. Although Bloom is the power behind the throne in the optical business, his business associate Burns *fronts for* him.
    2. Since the president of that power company didn't like to meet the public, he arranged for the vice-president to *front for* him.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. In order to *kick something around* you (hit it with your foot, complain of it, discuss it).
2. To want *a piece of the cake* is to (want a share in some profit, want something for dessert, want a souvenir).
3. *To get into the swing of things* is to (swing oneself through the air, get adjusted, get into the middle of).
4. *Things are looking up* means (things are looking at you, things are improving, things are looking upwards).



5. One usually tries to *pull himself together* after (a good meal, after watching TV, after a crisis or bad news).
6. A *souped up* engine of a car is (made faster, given less gasoline, spoiled).
7. *To get lost* is to (go away, be unable to find one's way, lose valuables).
8. *To get all dolled up* means to (become confused, dress in one's best clothes, cry).
9. When one adds to a sentence *to say nothing of* something, he means (to keep it quiet, to mention it, to omit mentioning it).
10. If John *fronts for* his boss, he (sits in front of him, acts as the real director of a business, always walks ahead of him).
11. If Mary complained to her boss's boss, did she (go through channels, adopt the wrong procedure)?
12. When Susan is trying to *kick a habit*, she is trying to (get rid of it, indulge it, reduce it).

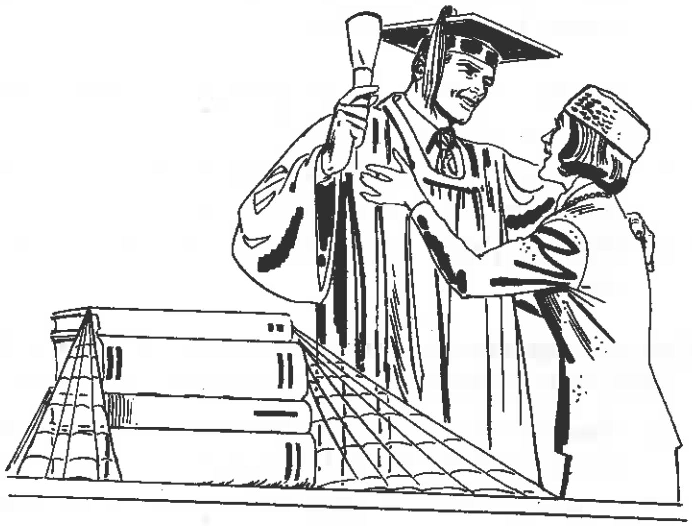
B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions in this lesson.

1. Are you depressed or light-hearted when *things are looking up*?
2. Is an employee who *plays up to* his superiors popular with his fellow workers?
3. Isn't a girl likely to *play up to* a man whom she hopes to marry?
4. Are most *souped-up* cars driven by teenagers, or are most of them operated by middle-aged men?
5. Is it easier or harder for a shy person to *get into the swing of things* than it is for an outgoing person?
6. Do some people find it difficult to *pull themselves together* early in the morning? Why?
7. Do you like to come to a decision immediately when someone proposes a line of action, or do you like to *kick the idea around* a little first?
8. If Harry was instrumental in saving his company a great

deal of money, shouldn't the company give him a *piece of the cake* when its profits are divided?

9. After a secretary has received a scolding from her boss, why is she likely to want a few minutes to *pull herself together* before she returns to her desk?
10. Is it wise to ask a favor from your boss's superior, or is it better to *go through channels*?
11. If the Brown Company *fronts for* a Mr. Williams, what do we know about Mr. Williams?
12. Does it take you a while to *pull yourself together* after you have had bad news?

# Lesson 37



1. to crack a book: (to read)
   1. Although they say that George never *cracks a book*, he did manage to graduate from college.
   2. What is the difference between *cracking a book* and cracking a nut?
2. to trade in: (to exchange an old article for a new one plus a payment in cash, etc.) (S)
   1. Every fall that physician *trades in* his used car for a new model.
   2. I'm dissatisfied with my new radio and plan to *trade* it *in*.

3. to trade up: (to introduce or buy a more expensive line of merchandise)
   1. That store's department for men constantly *trades up* so that it is hard to shop there economically any more.
   2. Every time Al gets a new car he *trades up* until at present he has a Cadillac.

4. to be with someone: (to understand or follow another person's conversation or ideas)
   1. Now take that percentage and divide it by our fractional profit. *Are you* still *with me*?
   2. Will you please repeat that last statement? *I'm not with you.*

5. to ease someone out: (to discharge an employee gently, often with reasonable notice and good severance pay)
   1. When the new American President took office, some members of the White House staff *were eased out.*
   2. Because those two companies merged, a number of their respective officers *were eased out.*

6. to knock it off: (to stop or cease doing something objectionable)
   1. When the teacher entered the classroom and saw two boys fighting, he cried to them: "*Knock it off!*"
   2. Because his son was angrily muttering about being forbidden to use the family car, his father told him to *knock it off.*

7. it figures: (it seems likely, reasonable, or typical)
   1. "Since Jones was left in charge of the business while his boss was ill, he expects a good bonus." "*It figures.*"
   2. When I told Evans that my secretary resented being passed over when raises were given, he replied that *it figured.*



8. to fill one in: (to inform, give background information)
   1. I'm supposed to meet the president of your company tomorrow. What kind of a chap is he? Please *fill me in.*
   2. Not having been to the convention, my associate asked me *to fill him in.*

9. to make one tick: (to motivate one)
   1. If I knew what *made my customers tick,* I would be able to sell them more merchandise.
   2. It's difficult for us to figure out what *makes our new boss tick.*

10. to cover for: (to take charge of or assume responsibility for another person's duties or work)
    1. Go on and take your coffee break. I'll *cover for* you until you return.
    2. Allan has to go to lunch early today. Can you *cover for* him from twelve to one-thirty?

11. to give one a break: (to give another person an opportunity, chance, or forgiveness)
    1. After the police had stopped him for speeding, the driver pleaded with them *to give him a break* and not issue a summons.
    2. "*Give me* just *a* little *break,*" begged the suitor of the beautiful but scornful object of his affections.

12. to be one's bag: (to be what one likes and is able to do)
    1. Nelson can letter posters beautifully, but drawing and sketching scenes *are not his bag.*
    2. Mary didn't like social work, but teaching has proved *to be her bag.*

13. to cop out: (to retreat, withdraw from or abandon something)
   1. We expected that foundation to give our school some money, but it *copped out*.
   2. After Ellen agreed to march in our anti-war parade, why did she *cop out*?

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. After the teacher had listened to the two girls quarreling over their marks, she told them to *quit*. (knock__________)
2. Is it girls or money that *motivates* that man? (makes him__________)
3. Elsa agreed to *assume Irma's duties* in the office while the latter went shopping. (cover__________)
4. A short time ago I asked Charles if he liked to save stamps, and he told me that stamp collecting *was not one of his hobbies*. (was not his__________)
5. Since the treasurer had been ill when the annual meeting took place, he later asked the secretary to *give him the details* of the meeting. (fill__________)
6. Although Nellie had consistently refused to go out with Paul, he pleaded with her to reconsider and *give him a chance*. (give him a__________)
7. Mother had promised to go to the Flower Show with us, but at the last moment she *decided not to go*. (__________out)
8. I'm sorry, the doctor can't see you today. He is so busy that he can only take care of patients who are seriously ill." "*That sounds reasonable.*" (It__________)
9. Martha never *looks at a book* from one day to another. (never__________a book)
10. Yes, *I can follow the point you are making.* (I am with__________)



B. Answer these questions, making use of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Are sports *your bag*, or do you prefer reading and visiting museums?
2. If skiing is *not your bag*, what do you like to do during the long snowy winter?
3. Who and what is the man whom our president just introduced us to? Can you *fill me in*?
4. What is the difference in meaning between *knock off* and *knock it off*?
5. Would you like to *knock off work* early and go to a ball game, or would you prefer to finish your work?
6. Who *covers for* the switchboard operator when she is out to lunch?
7. Do you sometimes wonder what *makes a certain person tick*, or doesn't that thought ever arise?
8. Do you ever *give a beggar a break*, or do you pass him by?
9. How do some students pass an examination without *cracking a book*?
10. Why did Geraldine *cop out* when George called to take her swimming?
11. *Does it figure* that a happy well-adjusted man would commit suicide?
12. What time of year is best for *trading in a car*?
13. What is the difference between *easing an employee out* and firing him?
14. Is a retiring employee *eased out* or is he automatically dropped from employment?

# Lesson 38

1. to pin something on one: (to fix responsibility on the wrongdoer, or to transfer the blame or the guilt from the wrongdoer to someone else)
   1. During the trial, the prosecuting attorney tried *to pin the murder on* the victim's husband, but the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.
   2. "Who broke this window?" "I don't know, but you can't *pin it on me.*"

2. to get a rise out of one: (to cause resentment or confusion in another person or to provoke a retort)
   1. When I told our host that we never had anything worth eating at home, I *got a rise out of my wife.*
   2. You can kid that fellow all night, but you'll never *get a rise out of him.*

3. to stick around: (to stay or remain where one is)
   1. When our dinner guest got up to leave, we begged him *to stick around* and watch a recent movie on TV.
   2. I can't *stick around* this delightful party any longer; I have to get back to work.

4. to pick up the tab: (to pay for another's restaurant check, to treat another person to theater tickets, etc.)
   1. That advertising man is flying to Puerto Rico for a conference, and his firm is *picking up the tab.*
   2. Of course our government *picks up the tab* for all the Congressional junkets.

5. to throw people together: (to manage to have persons, usually of the opposite sex, meet and possibly see a good deal of each other) (S)
   1. That hostess is famous for *throwing persons* of like interests together.
   2. During the war *my brother and his commanding officer were thrown together* a good deal.



6. to go to town: (to do something thoroughly, often successfully)
   1. Larry *went to town* on that real-estate deal and made a large commission.
   2. Our decorator certainly *went to town* on those silk curtains. They cost a fortune.

7. to let something slide: (to neglect some duty)
   1. I should have paid that bill promptly instead of *letting it slide.*
   2. Don't *let your interest* in our church *slide.*

8. search me: (I don't know – used informally only)
   1. "Where does that salesman go on his vacation?" "You can *search me.*"
   2. "Why does our cook always leave our house with a big package?" "*Search me.*"

9. to be at the end of one's rope: (to be pushed to a limit of one's endurance even to the breaking point)
   1. What with heavy indebtedness and poor health, Brown *is* nearly *at the end of his rope.*
   2. Seeing that his pleas to his daughter to avoid taking drugs went unheeded, her father felt that he *was at the end of his rope.*

10. to live it up: (to live in luxury, spend freely)
    1. Let's go to Europe for two weeks and *live it up.*
    2. After receiving a large inheritance, Bob and Alice began *to live it up.*

11. to do a snow job: (to cajole or deceive another person)
    1. That salesman who sold me a supposedly reconditioned car *did a snow job* on me. The car has been in the repair shop ever since I bought it.
    2. That seducer *did a snow job* on that innocent young girl by falsely promising to marry her.

12. to have a voice in: (to have some share, say, or direction in)
    1. The new vice-president was promised that he *would have a voice in* developing the company's international expansion.
    2. Those college students are campaigning *to have a voice in* the administration of their college.

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. *To go to town* is to (leave the country for the city, do something thoroughly, go shopping).
2. *To have a voice in* something means to (have a say in, be able to talk, be able to sing).
3. *To stick around* means to (affix stamps to package, work unsatisfactorily, remain in one place).
4. *To let something slide* is to (neglect some duty, push something over a slippery surface, permit something to be put in motion).
5. When one *picks up the tab,* he (makes another person's acquaintance, pays the others' bills, stoops down to get something that has been dropped).
6. If you *pin something on someone,* you (make him responsible, decorate him, label him).
7. To say that that hitherto conservative couple certainly *lived it up* when they moved to a larger apartment and threw all sorts of parties means that they (moved upstairs, used up all their money, lived expensively).
8. *To be at the end of one's rope* signifies that one (has reached the limit of his endurance, is the farthest off of a group of people, is dying).
9. You are likely to *get a rise out of* another person if you (compliment him, insult him, work hard for him).
10. If a hostess *throws two people together,* she (causes them to quarrel, makes it possible for them to get well acquainted, gets them out of her way).

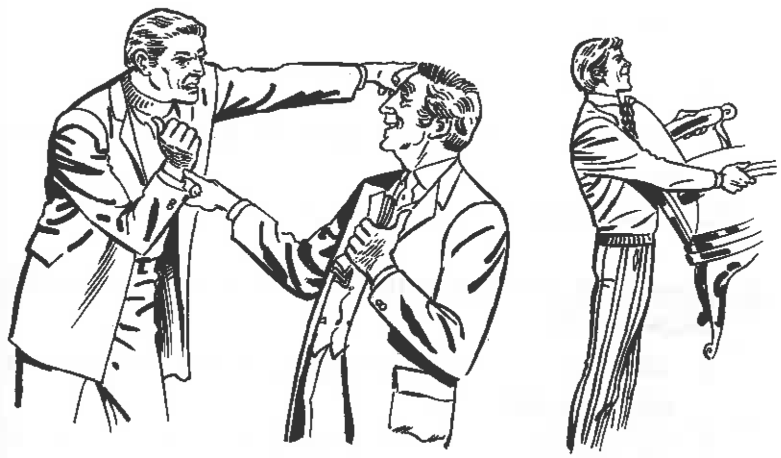


B. Answer these questions, making use of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. Is it a good idea to *let your homework slide* until the last moment, or is it better to work on it over a longer period?
2. Do you like to *stick around* after class and ask the teacher questions, or do you like to leave the classroom promptly?
3. If Jones is *at the end of his rope* financially, is he well-off or is he without funds?
4. Do you think college students should *have a voice in* the administration of their college, or do you feel otherwise?
5. Why should most husbands let their wives *have a voice in* spending the family income?
6. Is it wise to *throw* a young unmarried girl and an unfaithful husband *together*?
7. If white children *are thrown together with* black children, are they more likely to understand one another than white children who are segregated from black children?
8. Which type of person is it harder to *get a rise out of* – a bad-tempered individual or an even-tempered one?
9. Is a suspect likely to be convicted if the police *pin a murder charge on him*?
10. If your boss invites you to lunch, is he likely to *pick up the tab,* or are you likely to go Dutch?

11. If your teacher asks you where your theme is, is it polite to answer: *"Search me"*?
12. Does it embarrass you if your friend *picks up the tab* when you are lunching together?
13. If the chairman of a reception committee *went to town* on the drinks and refreshments, would he be likely to serve champagne and caviar or beer and sandwiches?

# Lesson 39



1. to take another person at his word: (to accept what he says as true and possibly to act on his statement)
   1. I'm sorry that you want your chair back. I *took you at your word* when you said that I might have it, and subsequently I sold it.
   2. Did you *take your uncle at his word* when he offered to buy you a car?
2. to go under the knife: (to have a surgical operation)
   1. Webster had a sudden attack of appendicitis and had *to go under the knife* at once.
   2. Leslie looks much better since he *went under the knife.*

3. to serve one's turn: (to suit one's purpose, to be useful)
    1. I haven't got a screwdriver, but I think this knife will *serve my turn.*
    2. My boss wanted me to interview that diplomat at his office, but I decided that a meeting in a bar would *serve my turn better.*

4. the worst way: (very much)
    1. We want to visit the museum in Italy in *the worst way.*
    2. Claudia wants to get married in *the worst way.*

5. to want out: (to want to be relieved of a business or social obligation, etc.)
    1. After ten years of marriage and quarreling with his wife, Jim *wants out.*
    2. My partner, I recently learned, is dishonest, and I *want out* now.

6. to buy it: (to accept or approve of an idea, offer, or suggestion)
    1. If you offer Higgins more money than he is getting from our competitor, I'm sure *he'll buy it.*
    2. "Mr. President, I suggest that we offer a prize to the best typist in our office." *"I'll buy it."*

7. to line someone or something up: (to attain some object or goal or stand a good chance of reaching it) (S)
    1. Before the Smiths move to the West, Mr. Smith will have to *line up a job* there.
    2. How many votes can that candidate for Congress *line up*?
    3. Rob is going to schedule the Vice-President to speak at our annual convention if he can *line him up.*



8. to lose one's cool: (to get excited, flustered, or angry)
    1. Despite the disturbing hecklers in the audience, the seasoned lecturer never *lost his cool.*
    2. Although the party of tourists was in danger from a threatened avalanche, their guide never *lost his cool.*

9. to leave something open: (to defer decision on an offer or proposal until after further discussion)
    1. That firm is looking for a new accountant. At present the salary to be paid is *left open.*
    2. As to your wish to have an extra secretary, let's *leave it open* until the next fiscal year.

10. to turn one on: (to greatly interest or intrigue a person. Compare: *to turn one off*)
    1. Pretty girls certainly *turn Charlie on.*
    2. Some of the great Renaissance painters *turn me on,* but some of the modern ones *turn me off.*

11. to miss the boat: (to lose an opportunity or to fail in some undertaking)
    1. The postwar stock market offered some very good buys, but many investors *missed the boat.*
    2. Ethan was a friend of that rich man and presumably could have been his lawyer, but somehow Ethan *missed the boat.*

12. to dream up: (to invent, think of and/or put into effect (S)
    1. Who *dreamed up* the idea of painting our living room walls a bright red?
    2. Let's go to the Automobile Show and see the new car styles that Detroit has *dreamed up.*
    3. If that student didn't have a good excuse for being absent, he would *dream* one *up.*

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. If a man says, *"I'll buy it,"* he means he will (avoid it, agree with it, contradict it).
2. *Leaving something open* means (deferring a decision, keeping something unclosed, departing without closing a door, etc.).
3. *To dream up* means to (guess at something, invent, awaken).
4. When one *loses his cool,* he gets (too warm, becomes broke, gets irate).
5. When a patient *goes under the knife,* he is usually in (a fight, a hospital, a hardware store).
6. If art *turns Norma on,* it (repels her, attracts her, distracts her).
7. The *worst way* means (in the worst possible manner, very much, on the poorest route).
8. The chance of a lifetime was given George if he would only accept it, but he *missed the boat.* He (failed to act, lost a chance to get aboard a ship, longed for his boat).
9. If that partner *wants out,* he wishes to (go outdoors, leave his firm, fire an employee).
10. When the magician said that a small handkerchief from a member of the audience would *serve his turn,* he meant that it would (help him swing around, be useful to him, hinder him).
11. *To take another at his word* means to (believe him, seize him on account of his talk, listen to him).
12. *To line something up* is to (draw lines around, fasten, obtain or secure something).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. If you wanted to drink and didn't have a glass or cup, what would *serve your turn*?



2. If someone insulted your mother, would you *lose your cool*?
3. Is the buyer of a lottery ticket likely *to miss the boat,* or are his chances good of winning a large prize?
4. Do you sometimes wonder where artists *dream up* their art?
5. Does the public *buy* these claims of the striking mailmen that they have been underpaid?
6. Is Harry very much interested in Julia when he says he wants to marry her in the *worst way*?
7. Does one *go under the knife* at home or elsewhere?
8. If you or a friend ever *had to go under the knife,* what was it for?
9. If someone hollered "Fire!" in a crowded auditorium, would you *take him at his word*?
10. When a job opening is advertised, what does *"salary left open"* mean?
11. If a member of a firm says that he *wants out,* what does he want to do?
12. In what city would you like to *line up* a good job?
13. Why did someone in the income-tax department *dream up* the idea of having employers withhold part of their employees' earnings?
14. What kind of music *turns you on*?

# Lesson 40

1. to throw someone a curve: (to trick or mislead, embarrass or cheat)
    1. When I ran into that married man stepping out with a young girl, I *threw him a curve* by asking after his wife.
    2. Our meeting was progressing very well until a disgruntled employee *threw us a curve* by demanding that we hire more staff members.

2. to have another guess coming: (to be mistaken or wrong)
    1. If you think you can coax me into buying that expensive car, you *have another guess coming.*
    2. So Burns is counting on me to lend him money? He's *got another guess coming.*

3. to make something talk: (to play something expertly)
    1. That virtuoso can really *make a piano talk.*
    2. Let's hear you *make that violin talk.*

4. not on your life: (absolutely not)
    1. Me invest in that speculative oil company? *Not on your life!*
    2. When a friend tried to get me to learn to pilot a plane, I told him: *"Not on your life."*

5. to cover a lot of ground: (to be extensive, to reach many decisions, to discuss several matters, etc.)
    1. That commission's report on our urban ghettos *covers a lot of ground.*
    2. In his first lecture on Plato, our philosophy teacher *covered a lot of ground.*

6. to mind the store: (to take care of an office, be in charge, be on duty)
    1. I have just seen most of our employees in the company cafeteria. Who is *minding the store*?
    2. Sorry I can't have lunch with you today. I'm *minding the store* while the others go and watch the St. Patrick's Day parade.

7. to make waves: (to create a disturbance, upset a smoothly run meeting, etc.)
    1. Before the meeting started, the committee chairman pleaded with its members not *to make waves* but to come to an agreement on the proposed law under discussion.



    2. Why did you have *to make waves* when her husband was about to sign for a new car?

8. to throw the book at: (to be harsh, exact the full penalty)
    1. Because the prisoner was insulting, the judge *threw the book at* him with heavy sentences of both fines and imprisonment.
    2. Remember when you were arrested for speeding, and the magistrate *threw the book at* you?

9. to clue one in: (to give one helpful information. Compare: *to fill one in)*
    1. Having been absent from our last Board meeting, I would like to have you *clue me in* on what happened.
    2. Before that decision relative to an increase in tuition is taken, be sure to *clue in* the trustees.

10. to be up for grabs: (to be on the open market and available to the highest bidder)
    1. Last week our florist died suddenly, and now his business *is up for grabs.*
    2. Did you know that Senator Stone is retiring and that his seat *is up for grabs*?

11. to pull one's weight: (to do one's fair share of what is expected of him)
    1. Let's get rid of that new salesman. He doesn't *pull his weight* around here.
    2. You must keep more regular hours if you want to *pull your weight* in this organization.

12. big deal: (a scornful or contemptuous remark indicating

that someone or something believed to be important is quite unimportant)

1. So that rich citizen makes an annual contribution to his church of ten dollars? *Big deal!*
2. Elsa has been put on the Reception Committee of her club, so now she thinks she's a *big deal.*

A. Find and underline the expression corresponding to the italicized idiom above.

1. If the judge *threw the book at* a prisoner, he
   - (a) hit the prisoner with a book.
   - (b) read to the prisoner from a book.
   - (c) gave the prisoner a harsh sentence.
2. If something is *up for grabs,* it is
   - (a) available to any bidder.
   - (b) higher in price.
   - (c) available to thieves only.
3. When one *pulls his weight,* he
   - (a) pulls an object as heavy as he is.
   - (b) does his fair share of the work.
   - (c) acts in an aggressive manner.
4. When someone *makes waves,* he
   - (a) draws pictures of waves.
   - (b) makes and transmits radio signals.
   - (c) upsets an orderly discussion.
5. If one asks another to *clue him in,* he is requesting
   - (a) information.
   - (b) an invitation to come inside the other's house.
   - (c) the solution of a crime.
6. *Not on your life* means
   - (a) not while you are living.
   - (b) never.
   - (c) seldom.
7. In *covering a lot of ground,* a lecturer
   - (a) walks up and down the platform.



   - (b) discusses many issues or wide topics.
   - (c) hides his real feelings.
8. When a musician is able to *make his instrument talk,* he
   - (a) plays it very well.
   - (b) gives it powers of speech.
   - (c) makes it sound like talking.
9. To tell one he *has another guess coming,* means that he
   - (a) has one more chance.
   - (b) is wrong.
   - (c) is going to guess again.
10. The expression *Big deal!* conveys the idea of
   - (a) pleasure or delight.
   - (b) an important business transaction.
   - (c) scorn or disdain.

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. In a discussion with his superior about working conditions, is an employee *making waves* when he criticizes company policy?
2. If Mr. Smith's secretary has to leave the office for a half hour whom might she get *to mind the store*?
3. Which type of prisoner is the judge more likely *to throw the book at* — a cooperative or a disruptive one?
4. Why don't you like to work with a fellow employee who doesn't *pull his own weight*?
5. Can you name a famous musician who can or could *make his instrument talk*?
6. In what way does an encyclopedia *cover a lot of ground*?
7. Why did Tom, after having been invited to go skiing, reply: "*Not on your life*"?
8. When you miss a class, do you find it helpful to ask a classmate *to clue you in*?
9. Why did the teacher tell the inattentive student, "You *have another guess coming* if you think you can pass this course"?

10. If the owner of a painting refuses to sell it, is it *up for grabs* or is it off the market?
11. If a good friend of yours suddenly slandered you, would he be *throwing you a curve*?
12. Do you resent it when a fellow employee doesn't *pull his weight* or do you shrug it off?
13. Are people who constantly *make waves* popular or detested?

# Lesson 41

1. to land on one's feet: (to recover safely from an unpleasant, risky, or dangerous situation)
   1. After his blunder that cost his company thousands of dollars, Jones *landed on his feet* by securing a very important contract for the firm.
   2. After you risk all your money on speculative stocks, you still expect *to land on your feet*, do you?
2. to dish something out: (to give or hand out a fluent amount of abuse, repartee, flattery, etc.) (S)
   1. That employee can certainly take criticism and he can *dish it out too.*
   2. I don't care for the sort of gossip *dished out by* your girl friend.

3. to get to another person: (to communicate with, secure the confidence of – also expressed as: to get through to)
   1. Ames is a hard man *to get to* since he is so taciturn and secretive.
   2. We like our new neighbors but we can't seem *to get through to them.*
   3. I'd like to do business with Brown, but I can't seem *to get through to him.*

4. to hold with: (to accept, approve of, or agree with)
   1. That elderly teacher doesn't *hold with* some of the more radical educational experiments in visual education.
   2. Do your parents *hold with* your smoking?

5. to bug one: (to annoy or disturb a person)
   1. Those neighbors of ours with their noisy radios and TV sets definitely *bug us.*
   2. Our neighbors complained that our late parties were *bugging them.*

6. to ask for something: (to provoke an opponent so that there is a likelihood of a deserved retaliation; also to act so as to risk injury)
   1. When Johnson called his boss a liar, he was certainly *asking for a punch in the nose.*
   2. Don't complain about the cut in your salary. You *asked for it* by being habitually late, absent, and inefficient.

7. to live in: (to room and sleep in the same place that one works)
   1. Joan has the job of baby-sitting for that New York family and *lives in.*
   2. Where can we find a cook today who will *live in*?



8. to have what it takes: (to be able to act efficiently and effectively)
   1. To be a good administrator you have *to have what it takes.*
   2. Because my lawyer didn't *have what it takes*, he lost my case.

9. to wade into: (a. to attack a person. b. to apply oneself diligently to a difficult and time-consuming task. c. to eat. Also expressed for b. and c. as: to wade through)
   a. After that stranger's insulting remark, his victim *waded into* him and knocked him down.
   b. 1. I have a lot of unanswered correspondence that I have *to wade through.*
      2. The auditors had *to wade through* a number of their client's account books.
   c. After working in the fields since daybreak, the haying farmers *waded into* a large noon dinner.

10. to get out from under: (to recover financially from heavy indebtedness or bankruptcy)
    1. After severe losses sustained during the economic depression, it took that automobile company five years *to get out from under.*
    2. They've just doubled that storekeeper's rent. Since he is already nearly bankrupt, how can he possibly *get out from under*?

11. to take the bull by the horns: (to resolutely tackle a difficulty, be bold or determined)
    1. He decided *to take the bull by the horns* and ask his boss for a raise.
    2. After all this time, John should *take the bull by the horns* and ask Mary to marry him.

12. to give one a big hand: (to clap one's hands in applauding a performer, or to similarly give vigorous and enthusiastic praise to a speaker, etc.)
    1. After the vocalist had sung her number, the audience *gave her a great big hand.*
    2. In his current review, that drama critic *gives a big hand* to a revival of "Hamlet."

## Exercises

A. Substitute, in place of the italicized word or words, the idiomatic expression partially indicated in parentheses.

1. We think that Harris *has the requisite ability* to serve as dean of this school. (has what__________)
2. Jane doesn't seem able *to boldly attack her problems.* (take the__________)
3. Betty, who baby-sits for the Browns, has a room in their apartment where she *stays nights.* (lives__________)
4. Fortunately it is easy to *communicate with* my children. (get__________)
5. When he is offended, Bob can *let out a voluble string of curses.* (dish__________)
6. Anyone who fools with an electric switch marked "danger" is *risking trouble.* (asking__________)
7. The voters elected Martin because they felt that he *had the necessary ability.* (had what__________)
8. After her aria, the audience *vigorously applauded* the great opera soprano. (gave her a__________)
9. Amos has so many debts that he *will never become solvent* (recover) again. (get out__________)
10. Her children's constant appeals for spending money *greatly annoy her.* (__________her)
11. Although that veteran feels the war is justified, he doesn't *approve of* soldiers' cruelty to civilians. (hold__________)
12. Although that employee was slated to be fired, he *regained his prestige* when he received a valuable patent. (landed on__________)



B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. When one reaches safety from an embarrassing or dangerous position, does he *land on his feet* or land on his head?
2. When one *wades into* a big job that he has to do, is his progress easy or fairly difficult?
3. Which is the average reader more likely to *wade into* – a novel or a book on economics?
4. Does the blowing of automobile horns at night along with other traffic noises *bug you,* or can you sleep through the disturbance?
5. What kind of a performer are you likely to *give a big hand to*?
6. Why does Mr. Green believe he can *get out from under* after his children graduate from college?
7. Does everyone *have what it takes* to be a doctor? Why?
8. Do you *hold with* the greater permissiveness children are granted today, or do you long for a return to an age when children were more disciplined?
9. If a student neglected his homework and class attendance, wouldn't he be *asking for* a failing mark in that course?
10. Which type of student is it usually more difficult for a teacher to *get to* – an immature student or a mature one?
11. Can most radio or TV masters of ceremonies *dish it out,* or are they inarticulate or tongue-tied?
12. What happens when a person *takes the bull by the horns*?
13. Under what conditions do you feel like *wading into* a big meal?
14. Have you ever had to *wade through* the Sunday edition of a newspaper in order to find a certain news item?

# Lesson 42

1. to goof off: (to neglect one's job or duty)
   1. That stenographer is always *goofing off* in the company cafeteria instead of getting my letters typed.
   2. How do you expect this business to make any money if you keep *goofing off* every afternoon?

2. to come off it: (to adopt or take a more humble or conciliatory tone, to be less stuffy and more democratic. Compare: to get off one's high horse)
   1. When Stanley told his fellow employee that she didn't know what work was all about, she told him *to come off it.*
   2. I got tired of Joan's boasting of her rich relations, and told her *to come off it.*

3. to do one's thing: (to do what one is anxious and frequently able to do in one's career, in demonstrations, etc.)
   1. Only when he is working in the theater does Smith believe that he is *doing his thing.*
   2. In demonstrating against the war, those students are *doing their thing.*

4. to be the in-thing: (to be what is popular and fashionable at the time)
   1. Today at student dances rock-and-roll music *is the in-thing.*
   2. It's *the in-thing* today to campaign against air pollution.

5. to be one's baby: (said of one's special interest, vocation, or responsibility)
   1. An accountant can help you with your income-tax declaration, but see a lawyer about making your will – *that's his baby.*
   2. When Susan complained to the saleslady about an imperfection in a dress that had been sold her, the saleslady said: "*That's not my baby.* See the Complaint Department."



6. to top something: (to surpass in wit, quality, or human interest something previously said or done)
   1. Yesterday my car broke down, my wife had to go to the hospital, and I lost my wallet with a hundred dollars in it. Can you *top that?*
   2. That clever TV comedian can *top anything* that anyone else on the panel says.

7. dry run: (rehearsal)
   1. Before we submit our plan for sales reorganization to our board of directors, let's have a *dry run* of the presentation first.
   2. The Dean called for a *dry run* of the graduation ceremonies scheduled for Commencement Day.

8. to play something by ear: (a. to play a piece of music that one has heard without ever having seen the music. b. to act or postpone action according to what develops rather than according to a preconceived plan)
   - a. That piano student can *play the most popular tunes by ear.*
   - b. Since matters arose at the business meeting that I hadn't been briefed on, I decided *to play it by ear* rather than show my ignorance by asking a lot of questions.

9. to get (step) out of line: (to disobey, ignore, or violate orders, customs, or regulations that others accept and practice)
   1. When Oscar reported for work drunk, his boss told

him that if he ever *got out of line* again he would be fired.

2. "*Get out of line* just once more and I'll expel you from school," the principal told the insolent high school student.

10. fringe benefit: (something valuable that an employee gets besides wages or salary)

1. That Wall Street clerk gets a moderate salary, but he has several *fringe benefits* such as free lunches, life insurance, and a yearly bonus.
2. It's hard to attract employees nowadays without offering them *fringe benefits.*

11. to fix someone or something up: (a. to arrange a date or an engagement for another person. b. to repair or put something in order) (S)

a. Since the out-of-town salesman didn't have a partner for the company dance, his associate *fixed him up* with a nice young lady.
b. We decided *to fix up* the old house ourselves.

12. to be had: (to be victimized or cheated)

1. "You mean these aren't real diamonds?" exclaimed the estranged wife. "Oh, how *I've been had!*"
2. The irate customer complained about being overcharged at the supermarket and asserted that *she'd been had.*

## Exercises

A. Find and underline the expression given in parentheses that corresponds to the italicized idiom.

1. *To get out of line* is to (leave a line one has been standing in, violate a regulation, be short of string or cord).



2. When one says that he *has been had,* he means that he has been (cheated, entertained by a host, hired to do a job).
3. *To have a dry run* is to (have a rehearsal, go for a run without getting wet, have a poor time financially).
4. When one *goofs off* he (moves to another city, avoids or neglects his work, falls off a high place).
5. If something is *a person's baby,* it is (his child, his sweetheart, his specialty).
6. *To fix something up* is to (ruin something, cancel a doctor's appointment, arrange a social or business date).
7. When one colleague tells another to *come off it,* he is trying to get him to (be more humble or democratic, get him off a chair, succeed).
8. *To do one's thing* is to (do what one wants and is fitted to do, perform one's obligations, make trouble).
9. *To play it by ear* is to (arrange one's hair about one's ears, watch what develops and postpone action, wiggle one's ears).
10. When a worker receives a *fringe benefit,* it is (a very small benefit, an extra benefit besides his wages, a fixed percentage of his wages).
11. *To top something* means to (improve on it, cover it, roof it).
12. To say maxi-coats are the *in-thing* is to assert that they are (worn only by a select circle, worn only indoors, worn by persons who wish to keep in fashion).

B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this lesson.

1. When a car bought at a great bargain proved to be a stolen one and had to be returned to its rightful owner, what did the purchaser declare that he *had been had* for?
2. If playing the guitar is *Tom's baby,* is he pretty sick of it, sad about it, or fond of it?
3. Would it be *out of line* for a dinner guest to propose a toast to his hostess?

4. When a prisoner *gets out of line,* what methods of discipline might a prison warden use?
5. Why did Jim ask Terry *to fix him up* with her roommate?
6. Why is it advisable to have a *dry run* of an advertising presentation before it is formally submitted to a client?
7. Is it the *in-thing* to dance the waltz, or is such dancing totally out of fashion today?
8. Would a new baby be a *fringe benefit* to a young married couple?
9. When an employee or student *goofs off,* does he make a good or bad impression on his employer or teacher?
10. What do you think of a person who *tops anything* that you say or do?
11. Should a parent let his child *do his thing* even if it seems inappropriate, or should he try to reason with the boy?
12. When one is unprepared at a meeting, is it smarter *to play it by ear* than it is to confess one's ignorance and ask pertinent questions?
13. What does *play it by ear* mean when applied to performing on a musical instrument?
14. When a dean says that all students are lazy, would it be logical to ask him *to come off it*?



# Lesson 43

## *(General Review — Lessons 1-42)*

A. In the blank spaces at the right, give a ONE-WORD synonym for the italicized word or words. Follow the example in the first sentence.

1. Mary *gets up* at seven every morning. ___arises___
2. Getting that $2,000 car for $500 was a *steal.* ________
3. My young son *took part* in a school play. ________
4. Last night's baseball game was *rained out.* ________
5. By eleven o'clock the party *was over.* ________
6. Before approving the new contract, my boss asked me *to fill him in* on the details. ________
7. Jim and I *take turns* riding his bike. ________
8. Tired of his fellow-employee's complaints, John told him to *knock it off.* ________
9. Before you take that exam you *had better* study hard. ________
10. We thought Black was the head of that company, but he only *fronts* for Mr. Evans. ________
11. I had to *call off* that trip to the museum. ________
12. As I started to cross the busy street, a stranger cried: "*Look out!*" ________

13. Bill wants to *trade in* his present car for a new model. __________
14. I believe that stone was thrown through the window *on purpose*. __________
15. Do I have to *get all dolled up* and go to that banquet? __________
16. I *looked up* that word in my dictionary, but I couldn't find it. __________
17. Last night we *talked over* our plans for next summer. __________
18. The audience *gave a big hand to* the accomplished violinist. __________
19. At first it was hard to quit smoking, but later on *I got used to it*. __________
20. That rich man flew all his guests from New York to Los Angeles and *picked up the tab* for everything. __________
21. That clerk was discharged because he did not *pull his weight*. __________
22. Ernest was *called down* for bringing his dog into class. __________
23. That student's paper was so bad that his teacher asked him to *do* it *over*. __________
24. What did your hostess *have on* last evening? __________
25. Since the restaurant had *run out of* steak, we ordered roast beef. __________
26. Smith hit Tom after Tom had insulted him. If you ask me, Tom had *asked for* it. __________
27. That guest certainly knows how to *play up to* his host. __________
28. The teacher told Alex to stop *fooling around* and start studying. __________



29. In order to be at work on time, you must *get up* early. __________
30. Elsa *took lots of pains* with her appearance. __________

B. The following idioms are *separable*. Construct sentences that illustrate the two-word-order positions for each idiom.

Example: a. Martha is *doing over* her living room.
b. That student will *do* his composition *over* before he hands it in.

| | |
|---|---|
| to louse up | to trade in |
| to make over | to turn down |
| to hand in | to blow up |
| to break in | to have on |
| to dream up | to figure out |
| to keep out | to throw people together |
| to fix something up | to call off |
| to make out | to try on |

C. Substitute in place of the italicized word or words, an idiomatic expression with *to get*. (Examples: *get out from under, get to one, get lost, get even with, get over, get through, get away with, get on one's nerves, get out of line, get in touch with, get a rise out of, get all dolled up, get into the swing of things, get along)*

1. Jane has just *recovered* from a long illness.
2. Since we were talking privately, we told our young son to *remove himself*.
3. You can *reach* me either at home or at my office.
4. Mrs. Anderson *wore her very best clothes to* the formal party.
5. Although he was heavily in debt, Burns finally *recovered financially*.

6. The insulted man *revenged himself* by hitting his detractor.
7. After a brief training period, the new employee easily *adjusted to* his job.
8. Today's parents often find it difficult *to communicate with* their children.
9. At what time did you *finish your work* today?
10. That loud television set of our neighbor's *annoys us.*
11. Although that employee is frequently absent and usually late to the office, he *never gets any complaints.*
12. Making fun of his sister's boy friend *provoked the retort:* "Mind your own business."
13. The boss told Ames that if he *disobeyed orders* he would be fired.
14. How is Jones *succeeding* in his business?

D. In each of the following sentences *part* of an italicized idiom is followed by a blank. From the following list of prepositions choose the one that correctly completes each idiom:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *down* | *in* | *over* | *through* | *up* |
| *for* | *off* | *out* | *together* | *with* |

1. Ellen *broke* ________ her engagement because her fiancé drank too much. (terminated)
2. John just got a raise. Things *are looking* ________. (improving)
3. The chairman *turned* ________ the meeting to the principal speaker. (transferred, gave to)
4. I had counted on Jack going fishing with me, but he *backed* ________. (refused to come)
5. After receiving an inheritance we went to Paris and *lived it* ______. (lived expensively)



6. Henry's wife *has a voice* ________ her husband's business. (a share)
7. Mother is planning *to take* ________ painting this winter. (start)
8. Grandmother doesn't *hold* ________ today's modern permissiveness toward young people. (endorse, approve of)
9. That plane is *bound* ________ Rome. (has Rome as its destination)
10. Roger wanted to go out with Edith, but she *turned* him ________. (rejected him)

E. Give sentences illustrating the difference between the following pairs of idiomatic expressions:

| | |
|---|---|
| tear down—tear up | shut off—shut up |
| look at—look for | break in—break into |
| call off—call on | stand up—stand for |
| throw out—throw up | dry up—dry out |
| fill out—fill one in | buy up—buy out |
| cut in—cut short | give in—give off |
| hold with—hold up | put up—put up with |

## APPENDIX I

# A Note on Separable Idioms

### Type I.

In English, certain idioms among those of the "two-word verb" class are *separable* by their direct object or complement; that is, the *pronoun* direct object is placed between the verb and its accompanying prepositional particle. For example, in speaking of turning off the lights, we can say: **John *put them out*.** Less frequently among the group of separable idioms we can similarly insert a *noun* direct object, as in: **John *put the lights out*,** which has the same meaning as **John *put out the lights*.** Note that the *pronoun* direct object never appears *after* the particle of a separable idiom as it often does after a non-separable idiom. For example, it is wrong to say: **John *put out it*** instead of **John *put it out*;** but we can say: **The firm *got rid of her*,** since ***get rid of*** is inseparable.

In *Essential Idioms* we have placed the symbol (S) after the definitions of those terms that are separable and have provided illustrative variations in word order. No satisfactory rule has been found that will indicate which idioms are separable and which are not. In this book it happens that the great majority of two-word idioms using the particles *out* and *up* are separable. Also one can find some, but fewer, examples of the particles *down, off,* and *over* that may be split from their verbs by a pronoun direct object.

### Type II.

It should be noted here that some idioms that do not take a direct object may be split by an adjective or adverb. For example: **Unable to keep up with the adults on the long walk, the child *fell far behind*** (fell behind); **The student *paid strict attention to* the teacher** (paid attention to). However, these insertions of *far* and *strict* differ from the splitting of an idiom by a direct object, since they *qualify* the sense of the sentences written without them. In *Essential Idioms,* Type II separable idioms have not been labeled, but their use is sometimes revealed in the illustrative sentences.



## APPENDIX II

| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| LESSON 1 | | | |
| to get on | subirse, montarse | monter | einsteigen |
| to get off | bajarse, apearse | descendre, sortir | aussteigen |
| to put on | ponerse | mettre | aufsetzen, anziehen |
| to take off | quitarse | enlever | ausziehen |
| to call up | llamar (por teléfono) | téléphoner, un coup de fil | anrufen |
| to turn on | encender, abrir | allumer, ouvrir | anmachen, andrehen |
| to turn off | apagar, cerrar | éteindre, fermer | ausmachen, ausdrehen |
| right away | inmediatamente | immédiatement | sofort |
| to pick up | tomar, coger | ramasser, prendre | aufheben |
| at once | enseguida, inmediatamente | tout de suite | sofort, gleich |
| to get up | levantarse | se lever | aufstehen |
| at first | al principio | au premier abord | zuerst |
| LESSON 2 | | | |
| to wait for | aguardar | attendre | warten auf |
| at last | por fin | enfin | endlich |
| as usual | como de costumbre | comme d'habitude | wie gewöhnlich |
| to find out | averiguar | trouver, découvrir | feststellen, ausfinden |
| to look at | mirar, contemplar | regarder, envisager | ansehen, anschauen |
| to look for | buscar, indagar | chercher, rechercher | suchen |
| all right | satisfactorio | c'est bien | zufrieden sein, richtig |
| right here | aquí mismo | ici-même | genau hier |
| little by little | poco a poco, lentamente | au fur et à mesure | nach und nach |
| tired out | exhausto, agotado | n'en pouvoir plus | übermüdet |
| to call on | visitar | visiter | besuchen |
| never mind | no se preocupe, no importa | peu importe | schon gut |
| LESSON 3 | | | |
| to pick out | seleccionar, escoger | choisir | aussuchen |
| to take one's time | tomarse su tiempo, proceder con calma | prendre son temps | Zeit nehmen |
| to talk over | discutir | discuter | besprechen |
| to lie down | acostarse | s'étendre | sich hinlegen |
| to stand up | ponerse de pie | se mettre debout | aufstehen |
| to sit down | sentarse | s'asseoir | sich hinsetzen |
| all day long | todo el día | toute la journée | den ganzen Tag |
| by oneself | por sí mismo, solo | tout seul | alleine |
| on purpose | a propósito, adrede | exprès | absichtlich |
| to get along | irle bien o mal | s'entendre, faire des progrès | auskommen |
| to make no difference | dar lo mismo, ser igual | être égal | keinen Unterschied machen |
| to take out | sacar, extraer | sortir | herausnehmen |

## LESSON 4

| LESSON 4 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to take part | tomar parte, participar | participer à | teilnehmen |
| at all | de ninguna manera | du tout | überhaupt nicht |
| to look up | indagar, buscar | chercher | nachschauen |
| to wait on | depachar, servir | servir | bedienen |
| at least | por lo menos | au moins | wenigstens |
| so far | hasta ahora | jusqu'à présent | bis jetzt |
| to take a walk | dar un paseo a pie | faire une promenade | Spaziergang machen |
| to take a seat | tomar asiento, sentarse | prendre un siège | platznehmen |
| to try on | probarse | essayer | anprobieren |
| to think over | reflexionar, meditar | réfléchir | überlegen |
| to take place | suceder, ocurrir | avoir lieu | stattfinden |
| to put away | guardar, recoger | ranger | weglegen |

## LESSON 5

| LESSON 5 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to shake hands | dar la mano | serrer la main, donner une poignée de main | Hand reichen |
| to look out | tener cuidado | prendre garde | aufpassen |
| to think of | parecerle a uno, opinar | penser à | davon halten, Meinung haben |
| to get back | regresar | revenir, retourner | zurückkommen |
| to catch cold | resfriarse, acatarrarse | prendre froid | sich erkälten |
| to make up one's mind | decidirse | se décider | sich entschliessen |
| to change one's mind | cambiar de opinión o idea | changer d'idée, changer d'avis | Meinung ändern |
| for the time being | por ahora, mientras tanto | pour le moment | zur Zeit |
| to get over | reponerse, restablecerse | se consoler, se remettre | hinwegkommen |
| to call off | cancelar | annuler | absagen |
| for good | para siempre, permanentemente | pour de bon | für immer, ständig |
| in a hurry | rápidamente | être pressé | in Eile |

## LESSON 6

| LESSON 6 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to hang up | colgar | suspendre, raccrocher (téléphone) | aufhängen |
| to leave out | omitir | omettre | auslassen |
| to count on | contar con | compter sur | rechnen auf |
| to make friends | hacer amigos | faire des amis | Freundschaft anschliessen |
| out of order | descompuesto | ne pas fonctionner | ausser Betrieb |
| to get to | llegar a | arriver à | ankommen |
| at times | a veces | quelquefois, parfois | gelegentlich |
| to look over | revisar, examinar | examiner, vérifier | prüfen, nachsehen |
| to have time off | tener tiempo libre | avoir du temps libre | frei haben |



| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to keep on | continuar | continuer à | fortfahren |
| to put out | sofocar, apagar, extinguir | éteindre | auslöschen, ausmachen |
| all of a sudden | súbitamente, repentinamente, de pronto | tout à coup | plötzlich |

## LESSON 7

| LESSON 7 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to point out | señalar, mostrar | signaler, montrer du doigt | bezeichnen, anmerken |
| to be over | haber terminado | être fini | vorüber sein |
| to be up | llegar la hora | être terminé | beenden |
| on time | a la hora indicada | à l'heure, à temps | pünktlich sein |
| in time | a tiempo, antes de la hora indicada | à temps | zur Zeit |
| to get better | mejorar | aller mieux, s'améliorer | besser werden |
| to get sick | enfermarse | tomber malade | krank werden |
| had better | es mejor que | il vaut mieux que | für besser halten |
| would rather | preferir | préférer | vorziehen |
| by the way | a propósito | à propos | nebenbei |
| to figure out | razonar, entender | imaginer, calculer | herausfinden |
| to put off | aplazar, posponer | remettre | aufschieben |

## LESSON 8

| LESSON 8 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to be about to | estar a punto de | être sur le point de | im Begriff sein |
| to turn around | dar la vuelta | se retourner | umdrehen |
| to take turns | alternar | alterner | abwechseln |
| to pay attention | prestar atención | faire attention | aufpassen |
| to go on | seguir, continuar | continuer | fortfahren |
| over and over | repetidamente | sans cesse | immer wieder |
| to wear out | gastarse | user | abgetragen, abgenutzt |
| to throw away | botar, echar | jeter | wegwerfen |
| to fall in love | enamorarse | tomber amoureux | sich verlieben |
| to go out | apagarse, salir | sortir, s'éteindre | ausgehen |
| as yet | hasta ahora | jusqu'à présent | bis jetzt |
| to have to do with | tener que ver con | y être pour quelque chose | zu tun haben mit |

## LESSON 9

| LESSON 9 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to wake up | despertarse | s'éveiller, se réveiller | aufwachen |
| to be in charge of | estar a cargo de | être chargé de | Sorge tragen für |
| to have charge of | estar encargado de | avoir charge de | verantwortlich sein |
| to get in touch with | comunicarse con | communiquer avec | in Verbindung treten |
| to have a good time | divertirse | bien s'amuser | sich amüsieren |
| to take care of | ocuparse de, cuidar de | prendre soin de | sorgen dafür, pflegen |
| once in a while | de vez en cuando | de temps en temps | gelegentlich, von Zeit zu Zeit |

| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| quite a few | muchos | pas mal de | einige |
| used to | acostumbraba | avoir l'habitude de | früher gewöhnt sein an |
| to be used to | estar acustumbrado a | être accoutumé à, avoir l'habitude de | Angewohnheit haben |
| to get used to | acostumbrarse a | s'accoutumer à | sich einstellen auf |
| to make believe | hacer creer, fingir | prétendre | vortäuschen |

LESSON 10

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to make sure | asegurar, garantizar | s'assurer de | sicher machen |
| now and then | de vez en cuando | de temps en temps | von Zeit zu Zeit |
| to make out | irle bien, salir bien | réussir | Erfolg haben |
| to keep house | hacer el trabajo del hogar | tenir maison, se mettre en ménage | Haushalt führen |
| to go with | hacer juego | s'accorder | mitgehen |
| to go with | ir con, salir con | fréquenter, sortir avec | zusammen ausgehen |
| to come from | proceder de | venir de (quelque part) | herkommen |
| to make good time | viajar rápidamente | voyager vite, bien marcher (train) | schnelle Fahrt haben |
| to mix up | equivocar, mezclar, confundir | s'embrouiller | durcheinander bringen |
| to see about | ocuparse de | s'occuper de | nachsehen |
| to get rid of | deshacerse de | se défaire de, se débarasser de | loswerden |
| by heart | de memoria | par cœur | auswendig |

LESSON 12

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to keep out | no entrar | défendre d'entrer | fernhalten |
| to find fault with | criticar | trouver à redire | kritisieren |
| to be up to someone | depender de alguien | dépendre de | abhängen von |
| off and on | de vez en cuando | de temps à autre | gelegentlich |
| to catch fire | coger fuego, incendiarse | prendre feu | Feuer fangen |
| to look into | investigar | examiner attentivement | prüfen |
| to take hold of | agarrarse de | saisir | anfassen |
| to be out of the question | ser imposible | être absolument impossible | unmöglich sein |
| to get through | terminar, acabar | terminer | beenden |
| all at once | repentinamente, de pronto | tout à coup | ganz auf einmal |
| to keep track of | llevar cuenta de | enregistrer, tenir un registre | aufzeichnen, aufschreiben |
| to call down | regañar | réprimander | Vorwürfe machen, schelten |



| LESSON 13 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| up to date | moderno, al día, al corriente | tenir à jour | neuzeitlich |
| out of date | anticuado, antiguo, arcaico | démodé, périmé, dépassé | ausser Mode |
| to blow up | explotar, volar | faire sauter, exploser | explodieren |
| to do over | rehacer | refaire | wiederholen |
| to burn down | quemarse (un edificio) | détruire par le feu | abbrennen |
| to burn up | quemarse | brûler entièrement | verbrennen |
| to burn out | fundirse | brûler | ausbrennen |
| to make good | tener éxito | réussir | Erfolg haben |
| to stand to reason | ser natural, lógico | il va sans dire | ohne Zweifel |
| to break out | estallar, comenzar súbitamente | éclater | ausbrechen |
| as to | en cuanto a | en tant que, quant à | was anbetrifft |
| to feel sorry for | tener lástima de | avoir pitié de | Mitleid haben |
| to take something for granted | dar por descontado | être persuadé | selbstverständlich halten |

LESSON 14

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to break down | romperse | ne plus marcher | versagen |
| to turn out | resultar | finalement devenir | herausdrehen |
| to become of | sucederle, hacerse de | advenir | sich ereignen |
| to give up | dejar de, rendirse | se rendre, abdiquer, abandonner | aufgeben, passieren |
| to take pity on | tener lástima de | avoir pitié de | Mitleid haben |
| to cross out | tachar | barrer | ausstreichen |
| to take into account | tener en cuenta, tener en consideración | tenir compte de | in Betracht ziehen |
| to make clear | aclarar | clarifier | erklären |
| to take a look at | mirar a | jeter un coup d'œil | ansehen |
| to have on | tener puesto | porter | tragen |
| to come to | volver en sí | revenir à soi, se remettre | zu sich kommen |
| to call for | ir a buscar | venir chercher | abholen |

LESSON 15

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to eat in—to eat out | comer en casa—comer fuera | manger à la maison, au restaurant | zu Hause essen, aussessen |
| to play tricks on | tomarle el pelo a | jouer un tour à quelqu'un | Schabernack spielen |
| to look after | cuidar de | s'occuper de | aufpassen |
| to feel like | tener ganas de | avoir envie de | Lust haben |
| once and for all | de una vez y para siempre | une fois pour toutes | endgültig |
| to hear from | recibir noticias de, saber de | recevoir des nouvelles | Nachricht bekommen |
| to hear of | oir hablar de, saber de | entendre parler de | etwas hören von, über |

| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to make fun of | burlarse de | se moquer de, se rire de | sich lustig machen |
| to come true | resultar cierto | devenir un fait accompli | wahr werden |
| as a matter of fact | en realidad, es más | le fait est que | tatsächlich Kopf gehen |
| to have one's way | salirse con la suya | en faire à sa tête | mit Freude oder Ungeduld erwarten |
| to look forward to | aguardar con ansia | attendre avec impatience | nach dem eigenen |

## LESSON 16

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| inside out—upside down | al revés, boca abajo | sens dessus dessous | Innenseite nach aussen, umgedreht |
| to fill out | llenar | remplir | ausfüllen |
| to take advantage of | aprovecharse de | profiter de | ausnützen |
| no matter | no importa | n'importe | ohne auf etwas zu achten |
| to take up | estudiar | étudier | studieren, belegen |
| to take something up with | consultar con | discuter avec | besprechen |
| to take after | salir a | tenir de | sich ähnlich sein |
| in the long run | a la larga | à la longue | zum Schluss, am Ende |
| out of | sin | manquer de | veraltet |
| to run out of | acabarse, agotarse | manquer de | ohne Vorrat sein |

## LESSON 17

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| every so often | de vez en cuando | assez souvent | gelegentlich |
| to get along with | llevarse bien con | s'entendre | zusammen auskommen |
| hard of hearing | medio sordo | sourd d'oreille | schlecht hörig sein |
| to let go of | soltar | lâcher | freilassen, gehenlassen |
| to keep in mind | recordar | se rappeler de | nicht vergessen |
| to run over | arrollar, atropellar | écraser | überfahren |
| to keep an eye on | vigilar | surveiller | aufpassen |
| to go off | disparar, explotar, salir de pronto | faire explosion, partir | losgehen |
| to grow out of | quitársele | passer | auswachsen |
| to make the best of | sacar el mejor partido posible | tirer le meilleur parti de | das Beste aus etwas machen |
| to cut off | cortar | couper, interrompre | abschneiden |
| to cut out | recortar | découper, cesser de, cesser immédiatement | ausschneiden |



| LESSON 18 | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to blow out | reventarse | avoir une crevaison | platzen, explodieren |
| to shut off | apagar, cerrar | fermer, couper | abstellen |
| to shut up | cerrar, callarse | mettre les verrous, se taire | abschliessen, Mund halten |
| to have got | tener, poseer | avoir | bekommen, besitzen |
| to have got to do something | tener que hacer algo | devoir | etwas tun müssen |
| to keep up with | mantenerse a la par de | aller aussi vite que | Schritt halten |
| to tell time | decir la hora | dire l'heure | die Zeit kennen |
| to turn down | rechazar | baisser, refuser | schwächer stellen, ablehnen |
| to be becoming | quedarle bien | être seyant | gut aussehen, gut kleiden |
| to break in | estrenar, ajustar, domar | assouplir, roder | eintragen, einfahren (car) |
| to break into | entrar en, asaltar | s'introduire | einbrechen |
| above all | sobre todo | par-dessus tout | hauptsächlich, über alles |

## LESSON 19

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to do without | prescindir de | se passer de | ohne etwas auskommen |
| to watch out for | tener cuidado (con, de) | faire attention à | |
| to be bound to | ser inevitable | être certain de | aufpassen |
| to be bound for somewhere | dirigirse a | (à) destination (de) | gewiss, bestimmt sein |
| to take someone for | tomar a uno por | prendre quelqu'un pour | hingehen, hinfahren |
| to try out | probar | essayer | jemanden halten für |
| to tear down | derribar, demoler | démolir | ausprobieren |
| to tear up | rasgar, lacerar | déchirer | abreissen |
| to cut up | cortar en pedazos | couper en petits morceaux | zerreissen |
| to burn up | quemarse | consumer | abschneiden, abbrechen zerschneiden verbrennen |

## LESSON 20

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to cut off | cortar parte de algo | couper | abschneiden |
| to tell two things or two persons apart | distinguir entre | distinguer entre | unterscheiden |
| all the same | sin embargo, no obstante | tout de même, cela être égal | gleich sein, egal sein |
| to take charge of | encargarse de | se charger de | sorgetragen für, sorgen für |
| to go around | alcanzar para todos | suffire à tout le monde | herumgehen, herumreichen |
| to be in the way | estorbar | être de trop | im Wege sein |
| in vain | en vano | en vain | vergeblich, vergebens |

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to put up | construir, edificar | construire, ériger | errichten, aufbauen |
| to put up with | tolerar, soportar | tolérer | ertragen, aushalten |
| to put on weight | ganar peso | engraisser | zunehmen |
| day in, day out | a diario, día tras día | à longueur de journée | Tag ein und Tag aus |
| to show off | jactarse, presumir, ostentar | faire parade de, poseur | sich zeigen, prahlen |

LESSON 21

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to hold still | estarse quieto | rester tranquille | stillhälten |
| to know by sight | conocer de vista | connaître de vue | von Ansehen kennen |
| something the matter | algo le pasa | rien de déréglé, y avoir quelque chose | etwas nicht in Ordnung sein |
| to bring up | criar; presentar | élever | erziehen |
| to get lost | perderse | se perdre | sich verirren |
| to hold up | asaltar; demorar | arrêter la circulation, s'emparer de, saisir, assaillir | überfallen |
| to run away | huir, escaparse | se sauver, s'échapper | weglaufen, wegrennen |
| to run errands | hacer mandados | faire des courses | Besorgungen machen, einkaufen |
| to see someone off | despedirse de alguien | voir partir quelqu'un | Abschied nehmen |
| to set fire to | prenderle fuego a | mettre le feu à | in Brand setzen, anzünden |

LESSON 22

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to drive up to | ir hasta, llegar hasta, aproximarse a | conduire à, aller à, courir à | hinfahren, hinlaufen, hingehen |
| to hand in | presentar, entregar | remettre, donner | einreichen |
| to hold good | servir, ser válido | être bon, être valide | aufrechthalten, einhalten |
| to hold on | aguantar, agarrarse, detener | saisir, tenir, arrêter, Ne quittez pas! | anhalten, aufhalten |
| to think up | idear | inventer, imaginer | ausdenken |
| to be better off | irle mejor | valoir mieux | besser dran sein |
| to be well-off | ser de buena posición económica | dans l'aisance | vermögend sein |
| to take someone by surprise | sorprender a alguien | prendre au dépourvu | überraschen |
| to keep in touch with | mantenerse en contacto con | continuer à communiquer avec | in Verbindung bleiben |
| to be named after | llamarlo como | être nommé d'après | nach jemanden benannt sein |
| to put together | armar | assembler | zusammen setzen |
| to take apart | desarmar | démonter | auseinandernehmen |



| LESSON 24 | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to give someone a ring | llamar por teléfono a alguien | donner un coup de téléphone à | anrufen, telefonieren |
| to drop someone a line | escribirle unas líneas a alguien | écrire un mot | jemandem ein paar Worte schreiben |
| to come across | encontrarse con | trouver par hasard | treffen, herausfinden |
| to stand for | aguantar a; representar | représenter, tolérer | darstellen, sich gefallen lassen |
| to stand a chance | tener probabilidad | avoir la chance de | eine Möglichkeit haben |
| to make faces | hacer muecas | faire des grimaces | ein Gesicht ziehen |
| to take pains | esmerarse | prendre de la peine | etwas sorgfältig tun, sich Mühe geben |
| to look up to | admirar | avoir un grand respect pour | bewundern, respektieren |
| to look down upon | despreciar | regarder de haut en bas | herabsehen auf |
| to take off | despegar | décoller | abfliegen (abhauen) |
| to take time off | tomar tiempo libre | prendre du temps libre | frei nehmen |
| to keep good time | andar bien (un reloj) | être à l'heure | genau gehen |

LESSON 25

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to make over | rehacer, arreglar | refaire, remettre à la mode | ändern |
| to give birth to | dar a luz | donner naissance à, mettre au monde | zur Welt bringen |
| to taste of | saber a | avoir le goût de | schmecken nach |
| to get on one's nerves | ponerlo a uno nervioso | porter sur les nerfs | nervös machen, auf die Nerven gehen |
| to put down | dominar | déposer | niederwerfen, niederdrücken |
| to go in for | ser aficionado a | s'adonner à | etwas gern haben, Freude daran haben |
| to stay up | acostarse tarde | veiller | aufbleiben |
| to stay in—to stay out | quedarse en casa; quedarse fuera de casa | rester à la maison, ne pas rentrer | zu Hause bleiben, ausbleiben |
| to bring someone to | reanimar | raviver | zu sich bringen, zu sich kommen |
| to take over | encargarse de | se charger de | übernehmen |
| to show up | presentarse, aparecerse | se présenter | sich zeigen |
| to clean out | limpiar | nettoyer (à fond) | sauber machen, reinigen |

LESSON 26

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to knock out | hacer perder el sentido de un golpe | faire perdre connaissance par un coup | jemanden bewusstlos machen, niederwerfen |

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to carry out | llevar a cabo | exécuter | ausführen |
| to run into | encontrarse con | rencontrer par hasard | unerwartet treffen |
| to set out | salir a, empezar a | se mettre en chemin | losgehen |
| to draw up | preparar | préparer | ausfüllen |
| to drop in | visitar | visiter à l'imprévu | unerwartet besuchen |
| to drop out | dejar de asistir | quitter | verlassen |
| to believe in | creer en | croire à | glauben an |
| to cheer up | alegrarse, animarse | rendre courage, réjouir | aufmuntern |
| to make sense | ser razonable, tener sentido | être logique | verständig sein |
| to blow down | echar al suelo | abattre | ausblasen, wegblasen |
| to break down | romper | enfoncer, s'évader, se détacher | durchbrechen, ausbrechen |

## LESSON 27

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to burst out crying—to burst out laughing | romper a llorar—romper a reir | éclater en sanglots, éclater de rire | zu weinen anfangen, zu lachen anfangen |
| to get away | escapar, huir | s'échapper, s'enfuir | loskommen |
| to get away with | salirse con la suya | s'en tirer | mit etwas wegkommen |
| to keep up | mantener el mismo paso | continuer au même pas, maintenir | beibehalten |
| to make up | compensar, reconciliarse, inventar | se rattraper, refaire, inventer, se maquiller | gutmachen, zurechtmachen (Gesicht) |
| to stand out | sobresalir | se distinguer de | auffallend sein, hervorstehen |
| to go wrong | salir mal | marcher mal, ne pas marcher | falsch gehen |
| to serve one right | merecer | mériter | recht geschehen |
| to let on | dejar entrever, revelar | révéler à | wissen lassen |
| to meet someone halfway | llegar a un acuerdo | faire des concessions | auf halbem Wege treffen |
| to check up | revisar, comprobar | vérifier, examiner | nachprüfen, untersuchen |
| to stick up—to stick out | sobresalir, protuberar | ressortir, tirer | herausstecken |

## LESSON 28

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to come about | suceder, ocurrir | se produire | sich ereignen |
| to build up | aumentar | se fortifier, renforcer | auffrischen, aufbauen |
| to bring about | causar | causer, provoquer | verursachen |
| to die down | acabarse, apagarse | se calmer, s'éteindre | nachlassen, verringern |
| to die away | desaparecer poco a poco | décroître peu à peu | abklingen |
| to die out | desaparecer | disparaître | aussterben |



| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to make out | irle, hacer, entender, preparar | déchiffrer, rédiger, réussir, comprendre, prétendre | ausschreiben, ausfinden, Resultat haben |
| to live up to | cumplir, realizar | être à la hauteur de | erreichen, erfüllen |
| to stand up for | salir en defensa de | défendre | eintreten für, sich einsetzen |
| to stick to | defender, mantener firme | persévérer | aushalten, beharren |
| to stick someone | engañar, estafar | tromper, voler | übers Ohr hauen, begaunern |
| to be stuck, to get stuck | ser engañado, estafado | être volé | beschwindeln |

## LESSON 29

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to take on | emplear | employer, engager | einstellen, engagieren |
| to take down | descolgar, bajar, tomar nota de | décrocher, prendre note de | herunternehmen, aufschreiben |
| to fall off | caerse de, disminuir | tomber de | herunterfallen |
| to fall through | fracasar | échouer | durchfallen |
| to fall behind | atrasarse | être en retard, en arrière | zurück bleiben |
| to give in | darse por vencido, rendirse | se rendre à | nachgeben |
| to give off | producir, despedir | produire, exhaler | abgeben |
| to give out | repartir, acabarse | distribuer, être épuisé | ausgeben, verteilen |
| to have it in for | tenérselas juradas a uno, tenerla cogida con uno | en vouloir à quelqu'un | Abneigung haben |
| to have it out with | poner las cosas en claro, ventilar un asunto con alguien | régler quelque chose | ausfechten |
| to hold off | aguantar, aplazar | cesser, s'arrêter, retenir, retarder | anhalten, andauern |
| to hold out | resistir, durar | durer, être suffisant, résister | aushalten, ausreichen |
| to hold over | mantener, posponer | continuer à montrer | verlegen |
| to turn over | volcar, trasladar | se retourner, transférer | umdrehen, übergehen |

## LESSON 30

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to let up | disminuir | diminuer, cesser | nachlassen |
| to lay off | dejar cesante, despedir | mettre au chômage | entlassen, ablegen |
| to bring out | sacar, presentar | présenter, faire paraître | hervorbringen |
| to bring back | devolver | rapporter | zurückbringen |
| to wait up for | esperar por, desvelarse en espera de | attendre | auf jemanden warten |

| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to let someone or something alone | dejar tranquilo a | laisser tranquille | alleine lassen |
| let alone | sin mencionar | encore moins | geschweige denn |
| to break off | terminar, finalizar | rompre avec | abbrechen |
| to wear off | pasar, desaparecer poco a poco | disparaître (peu à peu) | verschwinden, aufhören |
| to wear down | gastar | user complètement | abtreten, abnützen, ausnützen |
| on the whole | en general | en somme, à tout prendre | im Allgemeinen |
| to read over | echar una ojeada | relire, jeter un coup d'œil | nachlesen, nachprüfen, überblicken |

LESSON 31

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to work out | planear, resultar | bien finir, deviser | ausarbeiten |
| to back up | dar marcha atrás | faire marche arrière | zurücksetzen |
| to back out | retirarse de, decidir lo contrario | changer d'avis | die Meinung ändern, sich zurückziehen |
| to be set to do something | estar listo para hacer algo | être prêt à faire quelque chose | bereit sein |
| to set forth | salir, encaminar, presentar | se mettre en chemin, exposer | darlegen, daranmachen, beginnen |
| to have one's heart set on | anhelar, ansiar | avoir envie de, tenir à | Wunsch haben |
| to buy up | adquirir, acaparar | faire l'achat total | aufkaufen |
| to buy out | comprar la parte de | acheter la part de | auszahlen, ankaufen |
| to sell out | vender, liquidar | liquider | ausverkaufen |
| to catch on | darse cuenta, entender | y être, comprendre | verstehen, begreifen |
| to be cut out for | tener talento para | avoir l'étoffe de | veranlagt sein |
| to throw out | echar, botar | jeter à la porte, rejeter | herauswerfen |
| to throw up | vomitar | vomir | sich übergeben |
| to clear up | aclarar, solucionar, resolver | s'éclaircir, clarifier, résoudre | auferklären |

LESSON 32

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to slow up | ir más despacio | ralentir | langsamer werden |
| to dry up | secarse completamente | sécher | auftrocknen |
| to dry out | secarse poco a poco | dessécher | austrocknen |
| to be up to something | tener algo entre manos | machiner, combiner | planen, beabsichtigen, vorhaben |
| to beat about the bush | andarse con rodeos | tourner autour du pot | indirekt sprechen |
| to come to an end | terminar, acabarse | se terminer | beenden, zum Ende bringen |
| to put an end to | darle fin a | faire cesser quelque chose | Schluss machen |



| | *Spanish* | *French* | *German* |
|---|---|---|---|
| to get even with | vengarse | se venger, rendre la pareille à | sich revanchieren |
| to fool around | perder el tiempo, bromear | perdre son temps | Unsinn machen |
| to look out on | dar a | donner sur | Aussicht haben auf |
| to stir up | provocar, incitar | exciter, pousser à, agiter | aufhetzen |
| to be taken in | ser engañado | être berné | eingenommen sein |

LESSON 33

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to go through | llevar a cabo, aprobarse | souffrir, subir, aller jusqu'au bout | durchmachen |
| to go without saying | estar sobreentendido | il va sans dire que | ohne Zweifel, es muss nicht extra betönt werden |
| to put one's foot into it | meter la pata | mettre les pieds dans le plat | etwas verkehrt sagen |
| to keep one's head | mantener la calma | garder son sang-froid | den Kopf behalten |
| to lose one's head | perder la cabeza | perdre la tête | den Kopf verlieren |
| to cut in | interrumpir, cortar el paso | interrompre, couper en travers | unterbrechen, in denWeg kommen |
| to cut short | adelantar, reducir | couper court | abschneiden, abkürzen |
| to stand up | durar; quedar mal | faire bon usage, résister, poser un lapin | halten, aufsitzen lassen |
| to get the better of | aventajar | l'emporter sur | Überhand gewinnen |
| to break loose | soltarse, zafarse | se détacher de, s'échapper, s'évader | losbrechen, ausbrechen |
| to waste one's breath | perder el tiempo | perdre son temps | Wörter ohne Ergebnis verschwenden |
| to make room for | hacerle lugar, acomodar | faire place à | Platz machen |

LESSON 35

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to have two strikes against oneself | tener las de perder | avoir deux coups contre | in einer schlechter Lage zu sein |
| to step down | retirarse, renunciar | démissionner | eine Stellung aufgeben |
| to be a steal | ser una ganga | être une occasion | billig sein |
| to play up to | dar coba, adular | flatter | jemanden schmeicheln |
| to pull one's punches | no usar todos sus recursos | ménager | leicht kritisieren |
| to louse up | echar a perder | ruiner, gâter | durcheinanderbringen |
| to be rained out | cancelar por lluvia | ajourner, remettre | etwas abrufen wegen Regen |

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to go off the deep end | hacer algo precipitadamente | s'emporter, s'emballer | etwas ohne Achtung machen |
| to lose one's touch | perder la maña | perdre la main ou la touche | seine Geschicklichkeit zu verlieren |
| to have something going for oneself | tener algo bueno en marcha | être en grande demande | sehr erfolgreich sein |
| on the double! | ¡en el acto! | en vitesse!, sur le champ, au pas de course | schnell! |
| to blow one's top | poner el grito en el cielo, enojarse sobremanera | exploser, sauter, éclater | sich aufregen |

LESSON 36

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to kick something around | debatir un asunto | ruminer, méditer | etwas überdenken, überlegen |
| to soup up | preparar | surcharger, recharger | etwas an einem Auto tun, dass der Motor mehr Kraft bekommt |
| to say nothing of | ni hablar de | sans parler de | ohne zu sagen |
| to pull oneself together | calmarse, controlarse | se calmer, se ressaisir | sich zusammenreissen |
| to be looking up | estar mejorando | être à la hausse, s'améliorer | besser werden |
| to kick a habit | dejar un vicio | se débarasser du vice | eine schlechte Angewohnheit aufgeben |
| to get into the swing of things | cogerle el golpe | se mettre en pleine activité | sich einführen |
| to give another person a piece of the cake | compartir con alguien, dar una oportunidad a otro | une part dans l'affaire | etwas mit jemanden teilen |
| to get all dolled up | emperifollarse | se pomponner | sich schminken |
| to get lost | perderse, levantar el vuelo | décamper | verschwinden |
| to go through channels | hacer algo debidamente | aller par entremise ou par voies | durch Mitteln gehen |
| to front for | hacerle frente por | faire figure ou façade | sich aufsetzen für |

LESSON 37

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to crack a book | abrir un libro, estudiar | ouvrir un livre, étudier | ein Buch lesen |
| to trade in | canjear, cambiar | échanger, faire le commerce de | umtauschen |
| to trade up | cambiar por algo de más valor | trafiquer, spéculer | etwas besseres kaufen |
| to be with someone | estar de parte de, acordar | être avec quelqu'un | jemanden verstehen |
| to ease someone out | salir de (deshacerse) gradualmente de alguien | remplacer graduellement | einen Angestellten angenehm gehen lassen |



| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to knock it off | dejar de | cesser immédiatement | aufhören |
| it figures | por supuesto, claro | c'est logique ou normal | es ist möglich |
| to fill one in | informar, orientar | mettre au courant | benachrichtigen |
| to make one tick | motivar a | motiver, entraîner, pousser | was jemanden bewegt |
| to cover for | asumir los deberes de (otra persona) | couvrir, remplacer | für jemand anderes einstehen |
| to give one a break | darle oportunidad a alguien | donner une chance ou une opportunité | jemanden eine Chance geben |
| to be one's bag | ser afición o avocación de alguien | vocation | eine Liebhaberei für etwas haben |
| to cop out | evadir una responsabilidad | désister, éviter ses responsabilités | zurückziehen |

LESSON 38

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to pin something on one | responsabilizar | accuser, jeter la faute sur quelqu'un | jemanden die Schuld für etwas geben |
| to get a rise out of one | obtener una reacción de alguien | mettre en colère | sich über jemanden amüsieren |
| to stick around | quedarse en el mismo sitio | ne pas quitter, demeurer | herumlungern |
| to pick up the tab | pagar la cuenta | financer, régler la facture | die Rechnung bezahlen |
| to throw people together | juntar involuntariamente, presentar | mêler, réunir, rassembler | Leute zusammenbringen |
| to go to town | excederse | exagérer | etwas gründlich machen |
| to let something slide | dejar a un lado, evitar una responsabilidad | négliger, laisser aller les choses | etwas vernachlässigen |
| search me | ¡Qué a mí no me pregunten! | ne pas avoir la moindre idée | ich weiss es nicht |
| to be at the end of one's rope | estar hasta la coronilla | être au bout de son rouleau | ausser sich sein |
| to live it up | darse vida de rico | mener la belle vie | hoch leben |
| to do a snow job | embaucar | tromper, décevoir, duper, abuser | jemanden betrügen |
| to have a voice in | tener voz en algún asunto | avoir une voix au chapitre | etwas zu zagen haben |

LESSON 39

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| to take another person at his word | confiar en la palabra de alguien | croire, prendre sur parole | sein Wort dafür nehmen |
| to go under the knife | someterse a una operación quirurgica | se faire opérer | eine Operation untergehen |
| to serve one's turn | ser de utilidad, convenirle a uno | faire l'affaire | behilflich sein |

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| the worst way | sobremanera, en alto grado | à tout prix, désespérément | sehr, um alles |
| to want out | querer evadir una responsabilidad | vouloir la rupture ou la séparation | nichts mit zu tun haben |
| to buy it | creerlo | accepter, être séduit par l'idée | eine Idee annehmen |
| to line someone or something up | preparar algo o alguien | se trouver, aligner, réserver | besorgen |
| to lose one's cool | perder la paciencia | s'emporter, perdre son sang-froid | sich aufregen |
| to leave something open | dejar una salida abierta | garder ouvert ou en suspens | etwas verschieben |
| to turn one on | excitarlo a uno, entusiasmarlo | inspirer, répugner | grosse Interesse in etwas haben |
| to miss the boat | perder una oportunidad | rater l'opportunité, échouer | eine Gelegenheit verpassen |
| to dream up | inventar | avoir la brillante idée, rêver, imaginer | aufdenken |

LESSON 40

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to throw someone a curve | confundir, cogerlo a uno desprevenido | confondre | jemanden in irreführen |
| to have another guess coming | olvidarse de algo | faire fausse route | sich verirren |
| to make something talk | tocar un instrumento con destreza | faire parler un instrument de musique | ein Instrument vortrefflich spielen |
| not on your life | ni hablar de eso | jamais de la vie | überhaupt nicht, nie |
| to cover a lot of ground | llevar mucho a cabo | couvrir beaucoup de terrain | sehr umfassend sein |
| to mind the store | cuidar de algo, ocuparse del negocio | surveiller la boutique | auf etwas Acht geben |
| to make waves | romper la calma, estorbar el orden | faire des histoires | etwas ausser Fassung bringen |
| to throw the book at | castigar severamente | être strict ou dur | sehr streng sein |
| to clue one in | dar una pista, informar | tenir au courant | jemanden Auskunft |
| to be up for grabs | estar disponible, fácil de obtener | être disponible | zum Verkauf geben sein |
| to pull one's weight | no ser abusador, tener consideración | remplir ses fonctions | sein Gewicht herumziehen |
| big deal | gran cosa | grande chose, (se croire) quelqu'un important | grosse Sache, sehr wichtig |

LESSON 41

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to land on one's feet | caer de pie como un gato | tomber à quatres pattes | sich unversehrt erholen |



| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to dish something out | dar algo en abundancia, derrochar, dar a manos llenas | être désagréable | jemanden kritisieren |
| to get to another person | hacer entender a alguien | s'entendre avec | jemanden verstehen |
| to hold with | concordar con, aprobar | tolérer | einverstehen |
| to bug one | fastidiar, molestar, fregar | ennuyer, embêter, importuner | jemanden plagen |
| to ask for something | provocar, incitar | chercher des histoires | aufreisen |
| to live in | dormir donde uno trabaja | coucher à la maison | einwohnen |
| to have what it takes | tener las aptitudes necesarias para | avoir les aptitudes nécessaires | richtig für etwas sein |
| to wade into | entrarle de lleno a | entrer en plein | jemanden angreifen, durchsehen |
| to get out from under | salir a flote | surmonter ses pertes | sich finanziell erholen |
| to take the bull by the horns | estado determinado | être déterminé, décisif | etwas mit Bestimmung machen |
| to give one a big hand | aplaudir efusivamente | applaudir fortement | Beifall spenden |

LESSON 42

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to goof off | vaguear | être oisif | faulenzen |
| to come off it | desistir, no seguir | cesser de blaguer | mehr bescheiden werden |
| to do one's thing | hacer lo que a uno le parece | agir selon ses convictions | etwas beliebtes machen |
| to be the in-thing | ser lo que está de moda | être à la mode | etwas sehr modernes |
| to be one's baby | ser lo favorito, lo predilecto, lo que le interesa a uno | être la spécialité ou l'affaire de | eine besondere Interesse oder Beruf |
| to top something | ganarle, sobrepasar una meta | dépasser | etwas übertreffen |
| dry run | ensayo | faire des essais ou des épreuves | eine Probe |
| to play something by ear | tocar algo de oído | jouer par oreille | ein Stück Musik auswending spielen, etwas verschieben um zu sehen was sich entwickelt |
| to get (step) out of line | faltar al reglamento | avoir une mauvaise conduite | ungehorsam sein |
| fringe benefit | beneficio marginal | bénéfice marginal | etwas wertvolles das ein Angestellter bekommt ausser dem Gehalt |

| | Spanish | French | German |
|---|---|---|---|
| to fix someone or something up | arreglar algo o alguien, concordar una cita | choisir, réparer | etwas aufsetzen für jemanden, etwas reparieren |
| to be had | ser engañado, timado, estafado | être roulé, trompé, dupé, volé | beschwindelt sein |



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